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AU191308 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 13 Feb 87 p 7

[CTK report: "Czechoslovak Delegate's Speech At Disarmament Talks in Vienna; Searching for New Ways"]

[Text] The head of the Czechoslovak delegation, Ludek Handl, spoke at the Vienna talks on the reduction of armed forces and weapons in central Europe yesterday.

Reviewing the stances of West and East in Vienna, he stressed that the socialist countries have consistently advocated an agreement that would bring a concrete result -- a genuine reduction of military confrontation in the sensitive area of central Europe. All their proposals have been subordinated to that goal. But because the West has rejected them time and again and has not shown willingness to compromise, they have decided, in an effort to get the talks out of the blind alley and prevent a further stalemate, in favor of an agreement having much more modest objectives but preserving the actual substance of reduction and limitation on practice. In their new proposals they also incorporated the acceptable positions of the West.

However, NATO's position is diametrically opposite. In Vienna, its member-states have, on the contrary, been narrowing down the actual substance and submitting disproportionate and unsubstantiated demands for verification. For example, in their proposal of December 1985 the verification of reduction almost substitutes for the reduction itself. However, verification must correspond to the extent of obligations and limitation. The West, to justify its lack of willingness and political will in the eyes of the world and to obfuscate it objectives, which have nothing to do with the mandate of the Vienna talks, has been trying to put the blame for the failure to reach agreement on the socialist countries. It misinterprets their standpoints and takes their proposals out of the context of content and time, whether regarding the volume and manner of the initial reduction of USSR and U.S. troops in the first phase of the agreement or regarding the pledges to "freeze" or reduce weapons.

The socialist states are prepared to resolve all contentious issues on a mutually acceptable basis. They are willing to reach a reasonable compromise, and that also applies to verification, with only one condition: that the substance will not disappear from any agreement, not even the smallest one, and that any agreement will contribute to disarmament and thus to the reduction of military confrontation in central Europe, the head of the Czechoslovak delegation concluded.

ASSEMBLY UNANIMOUSLY REELECTS CARCANI AS PREMIER

AU191642 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1430 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Timo Luto report on the first session of the 11th legislature of the People's Assembly held on 19 February in Tirana]

[Text] The first session of the 11th legislature of the People's Assembly began its proceedings at 1000. In addition to the 250 deputies elected in the 1 February elections, the session was also attended by guests from various sectors of socialist construction. The deputies and guests applauded the entrance of Comrade Ramiz Alia, first secretary of the AWP Central Committee, and of Comrades Adil Carcani, Besnik Bekteshi, Foto Cami, Hajredin Celiku, Hekuran Isai, Lenka Cuko, Manush Myftiu, Muho Asllani, Pali Miska, Prokop Murra, Rita Marko, Simon Stefani, Kico Mustaqi, Llambi Gegprifti, Pirro Kondi, Qirjako Mihali, and Vangjel Cerrava.

In the name of the more elderly deputies, the session was opened by Comrade Spiro Koleka, who also chaired the first sitting. The assembly then proceeded to elect the Credentials Commission. In the name of a number of deputies, the assembly was then addressed by Deputy Kristaq Kule, who proposed the commission's membership consist of seven people. The composition of the commission was approved unanimously. Qemal Bregasi, chairman of the Credentials Commission, delivered the commission's report. The deputies were then sworn in.

In the name of a group of deputies from the districts of Tirana, Diber, and Pogradec, Deputy Vangjel Cerrava addressed the assembly and proposed that the Presidency of the People's Assembly be as follows: Petro Dode, chairman; Vitori Curri and Ibrahim Hamza, deputy chairmen; Sali Shijaku, secretary. With the assembly's approval, the Presidency of the People's Assembly took over the chairmanship of the session.

The assembly continued its proceedings according to the following agenda:

1. Approval of the draft regulation of the People's Assembly.

2. Election of the permanent commissions of the People's Assembly and of the parliamentary group's bureau.

3. Election of the People's Assembly Presidium.

4. Appointment of the chairman of the Council of Ministers and charging him with the formation of the Council of Ministers, its composition, and its program. [sentence as heard]

5. Election of the Supreme Court, appointment of the general prosecutor and deputy prosecutor, and of the president of the General Investigation Bureau and his deputy.

6. Report of the Council of Ministers on the fulfillment of the Seventh 5-Year Plan and on the 1987 draft plan for the development of the economy and culture and the 1987 budget.

7. Discussions on the report of the Council of Ministers.

8. Approval of the bills on the Eighth 5-Year Plan and on the 1987 plan and budget.

9. Approval of the bill on the State Control Commission.

10. Approval of the decrees passed by the People's Assembly Presidium.

Having been read article by article, the regulations of the People's Assembly were approved.

In the name of a group of deputies from the districts of Lezhe, Lushnje, Kolonje, and Librazhd, Deputy Gjergji Velo presented the composition of the permanent commissions of the People's Assembly and of the parliamentary group's bureau, which were unanimously approved by the deputies.

The assembly then proceeded to Item 3 of the agenda, the election of the People's Assembly Presidium. In the name of the AWP Central Committee and of a group of deputies from the districts of Tirana, Fier, Korce, Shkoder, Vlore, Diber, and Gjirokaster, the assembly was then addressed by Comrade Pali Miska, who proposed the composition of the People's Assembly Presidium for the 11th legislature.

[Begin Miska recording] Comrade Deputies, in the name of the AWP Central Committee and of a group of deputies from the districts of Tirana, Fier, Korce, Shkoder, Vlore, Diber, and Gjirokaster, I propose for approval the composition of the People's Assembly Presidium of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania for the 11th legislature. On the basis of Article 75 of the Constitution, the People's Assembly Presidium consists of a chairman, three deputy chairmen, a secretary, and ten members. The AWP Central Committee considers it right and necessary that Comrade Ramiz Alia, AWP Central Committee first secretary, be elected chairman of the People's Assembly Presidium. [applause] As deputy chairmen of the People's Assembly Presidium the following comrades are proposed: Rita Marko, Xhafer Spahiu, Emine Guri. Secretary, Comrade Sihat Tozaj. Members: Eleni Selenica, Faik Cinaj, Lumturi Rexha, Petrit Gace, Simon Ballabani, Stefan Qirjako, Rahman Hanku, Sotir Kocollari, Terezina Marubi, and Kristaq Rama. [end recording]

When put to a vote, the composition of the People's Assembly Presidium was approved unanimously. Then the assembly proceeded to the fourth item on the agenda, the appointment of the chairman of the Council of Ministers and the composition of the government and its program. The chairman of the Presidency of the People's Assembly, Petro Dode, said Comrade Adil Carcani, chairman of the Council of Ministers, had sent a letter to the People's Assembly to announce the resignation of the Council of Ministers, effective from 18 January. The resignation of the Council of Ministers was approved. To propose the chairman of the Council of Ministers, the floor was taken by Comrade Ramiz Alia, AWP Central Committee first secretary.

[Begin Alia recording] [applause] Comrade deputies, first allow me in the name of the AWP Central Committee, to greet you on the occasion of the start of the proceedings of the 11th legislature of the People's Assembly, and to wish you success in the performance of the honorable duties of deputies of the people. I also wish in the name of the comrades who were elected to the People's Assembly Presidium to thank you for the trust placed in us. I assure you, comrades, that we will spare nothing in performing our duties and rewarding your confidence and the confidence of the people and the party, to whom we will be indebted all our lives. [applause]

Comrades, during the 10th legislature of the People's Assembly, great work was done to fulfill the tasks of the socialist construction of the country and the defense of the homeland. The Council of Ministers efficiently directed the activity of an advanced and healthy economy, with compiex technical and scientific problems, and has completely justified the trust placed in the council by the people.

Assessing the activities of the government in a positive way, the AWP Central Committee has appointed me to propose to the People's Assembly that Comrade Adil Carcani be charged with the duties of chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania and of forming the new government once again. [applause]

Comrade Adil is one of the most distinguished leaders of the party and of our socialist state. He has always worked loyally to defend and implement the Marxist-Leninist line of the party and the teachings of Comrade Enver Hoxha. Distinguishing features of his work have been and remain dedication, consistency, and willpower. I express the trust and conviction of the party that the new government that Comrade Adil will lead will honorably confront the heavy burden entrusted it and that it will consistently implement the line of the party, the laws, the Constitution of the Republic, and the tasks which will be entrusted him by the People's Assembly. [applause] [end recording]

The proposal presented by Comrade Ramiz Alia that Comrade Adil Carcani be assigned the post of chairman of the Council of Ministers and for the formation of the new government was approved unanimously.

This closed the session. The next session opens tomorrow morning at 0900.

CELIKU APPOINTED AWP SECRETARY REPLACING CERRAVA

AU181958 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 18 Feb 87

["Communique on the Meeting of the Second AWP Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] The second AWP Central Committee plenum met on 18 February 1987 under the chairmanship of Comrade Ramiz Alia, AWP Central Committee first secretary, to discuss preparations for the meeting of the first session of the 11th legislature of the People's Assembly and approved relevant decisions.

The AWP Central Committee plenum elected Comrade Hajredin Celiku as secretary of the AWP Central Committee in place of Comrade Vangjel Cerrava, who is being assigned another important duty.

Concluding the plenum's proceedings, Comrade Ramiz Alia, AWP Central Committee first secretary, delivered an important speech on the need to further strengthen the managerial work in the central state and economy organs to implement the tasks posed by the Ninth AWP Congress.

The second AWP Central Committee plenum

Tirana, 18 February 1987

PARTY PAPER CONDEMNS GORBACHEV'S REFORMS

AU191039 Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian 10 Feb 87 p 4

[Unattributed article: "Gorbachev's Reorganizations -- A Testimony to the Bankruptcy of Soviet Revisionism"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee held an extended plenum on 27-28 January, at which Mikhail Gorbachev delivered a report "On Reorganization and the Party's Cadre Policy." The resolution approved at the conclusion of the proceedings solemnly proclaims "the new course of the qualitative reorganization of all aspects of Soviet society," which -- according to Gorbachev -- will bring "more socialism and more democracy."

As is obvious, the claim is a big one. But the question that arises is: What compelled the new Soviet leadership to hold this "historic plenum," as they have begun to call it in Moscow?

The answer must be sought in the complete bankruptcy of the general political, economic, ideological, and social line pursued in the Soviet Union for some considerable time now. Gorbachev spoke at the plenum about crisis and the severe state of Soviet society. He stated that "an entire system was created in the country, which gave birth to a mechanism that interrupted socioeconomic development and hindered progress. The country lost its drive, innumerable difficulties and unresolved problems accumulated, and elements of stagnation became manifest." He pointed out that the "process of interruption" swept over the state's entire leading machinery; he mentioned outdated political and theoretical concepts, the malfunctioning of the institutions of democracy, and so forth. The report delivered at the plenum reveals that the rate of increase in the national income in the Soviet Union during the last three 5-year periods declined by more than 50 percent. Beginning in the seventies, most of the planned targets failed to be fulfilled, the imbalance in production worsened, and negative processes severely affected the social sphere. Housing conditions deteriorated and problems pertaining to social, medical, and consumer services remained unresolved, particularly the problem of food supplies. "The gap between daily reality and the pretended well-being" -- admitted Gorbachev -- "became increasingly wider. The disregard of reality, bribery, and the encouragement of flattery and servilism had a harmful effect on the moral climate of society. Property" -- he stated --" belonged to no one, had no real master; those who administered it harmed property by using it to secure undeserved income.

"The elements of moral erosion" -- Gorbachev admits further on in his report -- "had a negative effect on the morale of society and eroded the noble values that had been characteristic of our people, values such as ideological devotion, enthusiasm at work, and Soviet patriotism." He listed a series of phenomena such as parasitism, crime, alcoholism, drug abuse, misappropriation, and so forth that have assumed large proportions. The report to the plenum highlights the spirit of stagnation prevailing in the major party and state organs, a condition in which numerous positions are held for decades on end by people who fail in their tasks, as well as the lack of control over party members holding high positions and misusing them. Art and literature -- as Gorbachev himself declared -- were dominated by the ideology and mentality of stagnation, by the imitation of western capitalist culture that propagates vulgarity, primitive taste, and spiritual emptiness.

A wound that had never been admitted by Soviet leaders but that emerged in the plenum was the admission of the exacerbation of national contradictions. Gorbachev admitted sotto voce that "national and intranational relations had not been properly tackled."

What Comrade Enver Hoxha saw coming and declared publicly -- namely, that the advent of the revisionists to power would lead to the degeneration of socialism and the restoration of capitalism in the Soviet Union -- has become a reality. The present crisis and wounds of the Soviet capitalist society have assumed those characteristics and features that were defined long ago in our party's correct analyses.

"The Khrushchevite revisionists," -- Comrade Enver Hoxha declared at the Fifth AWP Congress in 1966 -- "have liquidated the dictatorship of the proletariat in the Soviet Union and established their own dictatorship, the dictatorship of the new bourgeois strata that has now assumed power and is oppressing and exploiting the Soviet people... It has adopted radical measures to transform the socialist economy into a new type of capitalist economy, to bastardize education, culture, the way of life, and sound proletarian morality, to disseminate corruption and degeneration, and to open the way to the penetration of bourgeois ideology and morality, as well as foreign capitals."

Comrade Enver Hoxha has also written that "egotism and individualism are disseminated and prosper in the revisionist Soviet Union, as well as the chasing after money and other material benefits...careerism, bureaucracy, technocracy, economism, and intellectualism.... Dachas, automobiles, and glamorous women have become the loftiest ideals of these people... while their art and literature attack socialism and all that is revolutionary, and preaching pacifism and bourgeois humanism, the devoid and degenerate life of people who think only about themselves... Bourgeois ideology has now become an integral part of the capitalist superstructure set up on the capitalist state foundations now established in the Soviet Union."

At the time there were people who met these analyses and predictions of the AWP with a certain skepticism. But experience and facts in light of the entire progress of Soviet society since those days have fully vindicated our party.

The admissions of the general secretary of the Soviet party show only the tip of that extraordinarily severe reality of crises, difficulties, shortages, wounds, and bourgeois exploitation and degradation currently afflicting the Soviet Union. This affliction is total and no aspect of life there is free from it. It is a permanent affliction that may ease off in this or that direction but will always deteriorate. The varied forms and socioeconomic consequences of the crisis resemble increasingly more clearly those afflicting western capitalist coutnries.

Gorbachev and the plenum avoided the main subject: who was responsible and who led the Soviet Union into that state? Limiting himself to the sources and manifestations of all these negative phenomena in the seventies and the beginning of the eighties, Gorbachev left the responsibility with his predecessors, mainly with Brezhnev. It would certainly be unrealistic to expect the Soviet leadership to reveal the real causes of the crisis. The crisis in the Soviet Union is not a result of the mistakes of subjectivism or voluntarism of this or that Soviet leader; it is a result of their departure from Marxism-Leninism, a result of the thoroughly counterrevolutionary line lying at the foundations of the Soviet party and state. It is a typical crisis of capitalism. At the January CPSU Central Committee plenum, Gorbachev presented a broad platform which claims to show the ways of saving the country from its state of stagnation, crisis, and degeneration reflected in his own bitter admissions in the plenum. He spoke about great changes at the base and in the superstructure, about a "strategic course to accelerate the country's socioeconomic development," about "smashing the braking mechanism," about "reorganizing and restructuring" the entire socioeconomic machine. He also spoke about "renewal," "democratization," "socialist self-management," about "purging society of all departures from socialist morality", and so on and so forth. [paragraph continues]

But, as Comrade Ramiz Alia stressed in his report to the Ninth AWP Congress: "The campaign now proclaimed by Gorbachev in the Soviet Union against the backwardness and stagnation of the economy, against bureaucratism in its management, against the parasitism and corruption of leading cadres, and against misappropriations and illegal profits — all this is a demagogic campaign intended to deceive the Soviet peoples and lull them into sleep. These wounds are not at all a result of previous subjective mistakes, as is claimed, but an offspring of the very capitalist system that has been restored there. They can be cured neither by decrees nor by reforms."

The solutions now presented by the current Soviet leadership to escape from the present situation aim to reform the capitalist relations, a reformation on the road of capitalism and through capitalist methods.

On this road, greater independence is given to enterprises and production associations, making them as self-administered as is possible under the uncontrolled spontaneous demands and fluctuations of the market. In the field of external economic relations, the gates are being opened wide to the penetration of foreign imperialist capital in the Soviet Union, not merely through the well-known practice of taking credits from the Western powers, but also through the creation of joint enterprises with firms in capitalist countries, and by giving the latter the right to own restaurants, shops, and so forth, in the Soviet Union. At the same time, Soviet enterprises and production associations are being given a free hand to establish direct relations and to have direct transactions with foreign capitalist firms, as well as to buy and sell various commodities for foreign currencies. In addition, private work is being encouraged not only in agriculture, but also in various service fields such as in communal services, catering, transportation, medical services, in construction, and so forth, either on an individual basis or in private cooperatives of a capitalist type.

It is obvious that the reforms, reorganizations, and restructuring in the socioeconomic field mentioned by Gorbachev have nothing to do with a return to Leninist concepts of socialism, as they claimed to do. They are essentially intended to replace the present state monopoly capitalist system, which is entirely bureaucratic, rigid, heavy, and unmaneuverable, with one that is more liberal, more flexible, and more open to changes based on the market economy and free enterprise, one which would be better and more directly suited to the operation of the economic laws of capitalism. What the present team in whose hands the leadership of the Soviet Union lies intends to do is to move in the direction of a Western-type capitalism. The present Soviet leadership is hoping that, by progressing on this road, it will also be able to achieve some external objectives: to create a more powerful economic base to meet the pressure of American imperialism in the arms race, particularly with regard to the "Star Wars" question; to create a better basis and more favorable conditions in its rivalry and race with Western imperialism, particularly American imperialism, for the economic and political expansion of Soviet social imperialism in the world. The changes to be made in the socioeconomic field toward modern capitalism undoubtedly also require changes in the superstructure to create more suitable conditions for its free development. It is precisely with regard to these changes that an effort is being made to give the appearance of a broad democratization of social life. However, these changes only serve the bourgeoisie of the liberal wing in the struggle for power, and to break the resistance of its opponents.

Gorbachev did not conceal this when he stated at the plenum that "the change toward what is better is slow," that "it must be said openly that the process of mastering modern economic management and work by the cadres is meeting with difficulties, with contradictions, and not without some painful recidivist phenomena of the past." "The school of reorganization is not proving to be easy for some party cadres," there are "some city and oblast party committees whose personnel adhere to the old ways, who operate in accordance with the old ways, and who have remained outside the renewal movement," and so forth.

To open up the way to Gorbachev's new course, it is logical that the Soviet apparatus must be purged of that broad section of middle-grade cadres who cling to outdated management methods and who persistently oppose the present course, which threatens their positions in the bureaucratic hierarchy and the privileges that they enjoy. This need for purging was stressed strongly at the January 1987 plenum. Leaving aside the propaganda slogans about "the pure moral personality" of cadres, the whole essence of these changes is to promote into leading positions those cadres who are suitable and prepared to practically implement the course of reforms and changes. Gorbachev's report stressed explicitly that "the attitude of cadres toward restructuring, toward the tasks pertaining to the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development, an attitude that will have to be reflected not in words, but in deeds, is currently the decisive criterion in cadre policy, a kind of yardstick by which to measure cadres." The plenum did not fail to issue a warning about dismissals and purges of all those who oppose current reforms and changes.

The new course of the Soviet leadership, which reminds one of the period of N. Khruschev's liberal bourgeois reforms, was understandably received with lively interest by the western bourgeoisie and all the revisionists. Leading circles in various capitalist countries greeted it as "an important signal heralding a period of great changes." There were even calls that the process of liberalization in the Soviet Union should be accompanied by economic aid on the part of the West. Pressure is being exerted at the same time to induce the Soviet leadership to advance even further on the path it has embarked. The revisionists, for their part, have welcomed the current liberalizing policy of the Soviet leadership with enthusiasm, stressing that the events in the USSR constitute a contribution in the theory and practice of "socialism."

The current Soviet leadership led by Gorbachev believes it can lead the country out of its stagnation and difficulties by embarking on the road of classical Western-type capitalism. But it is a well-known fact that capitalism in the West has itself been convoluted for years and decades on end in the vice of subsequent crises and is unable to cure its own ills. Therefore the new course does not promise Gorbachev and his team anything but contradictions, difficulties, crises, and inevitable new failures.

YORDANOV MEETS INDIAN PRESIDENT IN NEW DELHI

AU191300 Sofia BTA in English 1139 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] New Delhi, February 19 (BTA correspondent) — Mr Georgi Yordanov, deputy premier and chairman of the Council for Intellectual Development and of the Committee for Culture, who heads the Bulgarian delegation visiting here, was received today by President Zail Singh of India.

On behalf of Bulgaria's State Council President Mr Todor Zhivkov, Mr Yordanov conveyed best wishes for fresh successes in India's development along the road of progress.

The sides examined key bilateral issues. They expressed satisfaction with the achievements in Bulgaro-Indian relations and discussed their further prospects. On the international scene, the two countries cooperate fruitfully in the efforts to ease world tensions, to scrap nuclear weapons and to go ahead with disarmament.

The Bulgarian delegation visited some scientific and cultural institutes and was familiarized with some remarkable monuments of Indian culture. It had talks with outstanding public and political figures, men of science and culture, and educationalists.

PANKOV HOLDS DINNER FOR MUSLIM LEADERS IN MOSCOW

AU182100 Sofia BTA in English 1949 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow, February 18 (BTA corr.) — This evening Mr. Georgi Pankov, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of Bulgaria to the USSR, gave a dinner at the Bulgarian Embassy in Moscow for the Muslim religious figures who took part in the "For a Nuclear-Free World" Moscow forum. it was attended by Mr Miran Topchiev, chief mufti of the Muslims in Bulgaria, Mr Sheikh-ul-Islam Pasha Zade, chief mufti of Transcaucasia, Mr Babakhanov, chief mufti of Central Asia and Kazakhstan, Mr Gekkiyev, chief mufti of the Caucasus and others.

54 Muslim leaders of some 10 countries took part in the round table of the religious figures of the Moscow forum, Mr Miran Topchiev, Bulgaria's chief mufti, said before a BTA correspondent. In their statements they expressed their great alarm over the fate of humanity threatened by the madness of the nuclear arms race imposed by the imperialist forces and by a nuclear catastrophe. Religious people have never wanted and do not want war. They are for understanding and fraternity among all peoples of the planet, Mr Ivan Topchiev said.

DASKALOVA MEETS HUNGARIAN JUSTICE MINISTER

AU181040 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1000 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Text] The justice ministers of Bulgaria and Hungary, Svetla Daskalova and Imre Markoja, met in Sofia on 18 February. They briefed each other on the new aspects in the work of the ministries of justice and on the changes in the styles and methods of work.

ZHIVKOV SPEAKS AT FATHERLAND FRONT MEETING

AU191108 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1000 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] A meeting of the Fatherland Front National Council has been held in Sofia. Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the State Council, participated in its work.

The meeting was opened and chaired by Pencho Kubadinski, chairman of the Fatherland Front National Council and member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo.

Comrade Todor Zhivkov delivered a report on certain issues of the domestic and international situation. He dealt in detail with topical problems of the contemporary world by pointing out the constructive, consistent, and peace-loving policy conducted by our country, which together with the other states the socialist community is striving for understanding, peace, good-neighbor relations, and cooperation.

Comrade Todor Zhivkov spoke on the most important tasks our people are now called upon to accomplish to implement the decisions of the 13th BCP Congress, for a qualitatively new growth of our national economy based on the scientific-technical revolution, and for a thorough and comprehensive change in all spheres of our life.

The participants in the meeting adopted a unanimous resolution of the Fatherland Front National Council on Comrade Todor Zhivkov's speech.

They also unanimously adopted a decision on convening the 10th Fatherland Front Congress, which will open on 14 May 1987 at the Lyudmila Zhivkova People's Palace of Culture in Sofia.

The budget of the Fatherland Front was approved at the meeting. The following officials attended the meeting and participated in its work: Grisha Filipov, Dobri Dzhurov, Yordan Yotov, Milko Balev, Ognyan Doynov, Petur Mladenov, Petur Tanchev, Stanko Todorov, Chudomir Aleksandrov, Andrey Lukanov, Grigor Stoichkov, Dimitur Stoyanov, Petur Dyulgerov, Stoyan Markov, Vasil Tsanov, Dimitur Stanishev, Emil Khristov, and Stoyan Mikhaylov. High-ranking officials of the BCP Central Committee, the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union Permanent Board, the State Council, and the Council of Ministers, as well as leaders of sociopolitical and mass organizations, and economic leaders attended the meeting.

AMBASSADOR IN BEIRUT DIES OF HEART ATTACK

AU192107 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2030 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Stamat Georgiev Stamatov, Bulgarian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Lebanon, has died after a short illness from a coronary thrombosis.

BILAK ADDRESSES IDEOLOGICAL COMMISSION MEETING

AU131110 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 11 Feb 87 P 1

[Text] A session of the CPCZ Central Committee's Ideological Commission, chaired by Vasil Bilak, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and secretary, was held in Prague on Tuesday [10 February]. Josef Havlin, secretary of the party's Central Committee, reported on the proposal for a national program of esthetic education. Michal Stefanak, department head of the party's Central Committee, reported on the meeting of Central Committee secretaries of the fraternal parties of the socialist countries for international and ideological questions, which was held in Warsaw on 22-23 January 1987.

In the discussion, the members of the CPCZ Central Committee's Ideological Commission stressed the requirement that esthetics become an essential part of all ideological and moral education and of our daily life and that it contributes toward a harmonious development of the socialist personality.

Comrade Vasil Bilak spoke last. He said the ideological front must now concentrate, above all, on implementing the conclusions of the 17th CPCZ Congress, primarily on its strategy of accelerating the country's social and economic development. He stressed that it is not sufficient only to explain this program; it must be demonstrated how it is being implemented and fulfilled at the appropriate places, what is hindering its implementation, and what has to be done to remove the obstacles to its implementation. This applies to all sectors, but particularly to management and to the mind-set of the people rooted in the habits of the extensive methods of managing the economy.

In this effort, Comrade Bilak continued, we are finding valuable examples in the policy of the CPSU and in the consistency with which this Leninist party develops and pushes ahead the program of its 27th congress. An example of this principled approach was the recent session of the CPSU Central Committee dedicated to restructuring and cadre policy.

We, too, Vasil Bilak continued, must proceed in a way that will make it possible for socialism to affirm its strength and advantages in our country so the creativity of the people might be developed everywhere, so an atmosphre of inspired search for new ways of developing our socialist society prevails, and so the foundations that were created by construction in our country might be strengthened. He stressed that in implementing the experiences of the fraternal parties, we must not follow the prevailing fashions and opportunism, but in a principled way we must strictly observe the conditions in which we work and live and reflect our own experiences and democratic traditions.

We also must never forget the experiences that we gained in the struggle with the enemies of socialism, in particular in the late sixties. They have been embodied in the Lessons From the Crisis Development in the Party and Society After the 13th CPCZ Congress. The Lessons also stress the need for a creative development and implementation of our revolutionary theory and the inadmissibility of any rigidity or unwillingness to tackle sensitive problems.

Bilak stressed that shortcomings cannot be hidden away. Every issue must be handled with honesty and openness. We must strive to tackle every issue in accordance with the actual needs and demands of current affairs and the basic interests of our people, as well as of the international revolutionary movement and progresive peace-loving forces.

There are people in this country, he went on to say, who are enamored of the "new policy." But it is the Lessons that stand in their way. It is the generalized experiences of building socialism that confirm the validity of Marxism-Leninism. These people call for rescision of the Lessons, but that will never happen. We know what they want, Vasil Bilak said. They would like to take advantage of the changes in the USSR while camouflaging their activities aimed against socialism and against the masses. The policy of the CPSU is aimed at strengthening and developing socialism, at renewing and strengthening the leading role and authority of the party, the Marxist-Leninist teaching, the socialist social system, and the power of the people. What the rightists were striving for in Czechoslovakia, including their program of the so-called economic reform, was the very opposite of that [CPSU] policy. The rightists bear the responsibility for the deformations of January 1968 and for the decay that paved the way for the counterrevolution in the year 1968. The right wing tried to undermine the very foundations of socialism, to throw Czechoslovakia backward, to weaken the entire socialist community, and, particularly, to harm the prestige of the USSR and Leninism.

At the present, when we are tackling a number of new problems, when we are planning for the future, and when we must be concerned, above all, about the dynamic development of socialism as a whole and its ability to face the threats of imperialism, particularly the danger of nuclear war, we must carefully and attentively build on all the positive developments of the past. We must strengthen the values of socialism; we must not permit anything that would raise any doubts about them, concluded Bilak.

DRUZHBA-87 MILITARY EXERCISES DEEMED SUCCESSFUL

Address by USSR's Kulikov

LD192139 Prague Television Service in Czech 1830 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Members of the Czechoslovak People's Army and the Central Group of Soviet Forces today began an assessment of the completed Druzhba-87 military exercises and equipment used. They fulfilled their task in friendly and military collaboration at all levels. Their results were highly praised by General of the Army Milan Vaclavik, minister of national defense.

The meeting was then addressed by Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact nations, who has been observing the decisive phases of the exercises. He stressed the defensive nature of the socialist military doctrine as documented by the themes of the Warsaw Pact Forces' exercises. He thanked the troops and commanders for the combat mastery they had demonstrated. This expertise illustrates their readiness to jointly fulfill the tasks of the Warsaw Pact's defensive alliance. At the end of the meeting, the best participants in the Druzhba-87 exercises were presented with awards.

Commentary Reviews Exercises

AU191230 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 18 Feb 87 p 2

[Article by Captain Bernard Rostecky: "Our Editor Attends the Druzhba '87 Exercise; With a Feeling of Great Responsibility"]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The Druzhba '87 exercise currently being held on the territory of our fatherland is one of the most important -- next to the Shield exercises of the Warsaw Pact armies -- and in terms of content it is also one of the most extensive exercises. Its objective is to comprehensively test the preparedness of units and perfect them to wage extensive combat activity under the complex conditions of mountainous forest terrain. This is the culmination of the winter training period for the Soviet and Czechoslovak units taking part in this year's Druzhba exercise. [passage omitted]

The preparations for the exercise were carried out in peace garrisons before it started. Commanders and political workers devoted increased attention to comprehensively taking care of the troops' material needs. For example, they even ensured that every soldier had enough spare equipment and warm clothing, because the cold -- especially in the exercise terrain -- is bitter and often unpredictable. Soaked camouflage uniforms and combat boots frequently have to be quickly changed. And precisely this shows not only how alert the executive warrant officers are, but it also shows the commander's ability to take good care of his troops.

However, the winter weather and complex terrain conditions put great demands not only on the people but also on the machinery they man. In the course of preparations, therefore, the majority of units tried not to neglect this important sphere. The transfer operation showed how well personnel carriers, combat vehicles, tanks, and other types of hardware had been serviced and maintained. [passage omitted]

After being moved many kilometers to the designated areas, the soldiers of the two armies began constructing a defense line. Despite the great quantity of work, however, time was found for friendship meetings. A day of combat friendship was held, which began with the Czechoslovak and Soviet soldiers laying wreaths at the memorial to the leader of the world proletariat, Vladimir Ilich Lenin. This solemn act was followed by a meeting devoted to the joint exercise. [passage omitted]

FOJTIK DISCUSSES ECONOMIC RESTRUCTURING AT FORUM

LD200359 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1600 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Jan Fojtik, candidate Presidium member and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, spoke in Hradec Kralove today at a seminar on the topical issues of work and labor. He concentrated his attention on the tasks linked with the implementation of the strategy of speeding up the socioeconomic development of our society and especially the way it secures the implementation of the intensification of the national economy. He concentrated, in particular, on the problems of scientific-technical development, its application in production, restructuring of the economic mechanism, and ideological aspects of this restructuring.

Jan Fojtik said our propaganda must concentrate on our effort toward overcoming difficulties and the results of this endeavor. [paragraph continues]

In this connection, he also pointed out the responsibility of the media as a platform of wide democracy and as a tool for tackling problems.

Comrade Fojtik also spoke in detail about the influence of the restructuring in the USSR on our development.

LENART, HOFFMANN ATTEND SLOVAK TU CONGRESS

LD200615 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1400 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] The Slovak Congress of the Revolutionary Trade Union Movement opened in Bratislava today. Editor Viliam Racek reports:

[Racek] Exactly 1 hour ago, the Slovak Union of the Revolutionary Trade Union Movement opened in Bratislava. Five hundred and fifty delegates welcomed at the congress a delegation of the CPCZ Central Committee, the Central Committee of the National Front, and the government of the Slovak SR, which is being headed by Jozef Lenart, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and first secretary of the CPSL Central Committee, and a delegation of the Central Council of Trade Unions, headed by Karel Hoffmann, the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and chairman of the Central Council of Trade Unions.

On the agenda at the moment is a report of the Slovak Trade Union Council on the fulfillment of the resolution of the 10th All-Trade Union Congress and the Slovak Congress of the Revolutionary Trade Union Movement and on the tasks of trade union organs and organizations in Slovakia in the coming period delivered by Ivan Gonko, chairman of the Slovak Trade Union Council. He stressed at the outset that the annual member meetings and conferences have brought many good and useful ideas as well as critical and self-critical words that reflect the interest of the working people in further progress and in successfully coping with the tasks and in good work.

This was also confirmed by the results of labor and creative initiative since the 10th All-Trade Union Congress. The Slovak trade unionists paid attention, above all, to fulfillment and overfulfillment of planned tasks, to increasing labor productivity, to lowering material and power requirements for production, to implementing progressive technologies, to production quality, and to services and all work. Considerable progress has been made in the field of socialist competition, as well as in the movement of brigades of socialist labor. It is, however, necessary to point out that in the past period there was a struggle to overcome a certain stagnation in the development and activity of comprehensive rationalization brigades. The trade unionists did not fulfill the set tasks in all indices. For example, orientation toward intensification of the national economy has so far been consistently mastered neither by the economic sphere nor by the trade union aktiv. For the time being, the economic thinking connected with the extensive development of the national economy still prevails. This ends our direct report from the first day of the Slovak Congress of the Revolutionary Trade Union Movement.

SOCIALIST PARTY'S 9TH CONFERENCE OPENS

Kucera'a Address

LD192131 Prague CTK in English 1855 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Prague Feb 19 (CTK) — The 9th national conference of the Czechoslovak Socialist Party opened here today, attended by some 400 delegates representing more than 16,000 party members.

A report of the party Central Committee on its activity since the previous conference was delivered [words indistinct] the main guidelines of the economic and social development of Czechoslovakia in 1986-90 and prospects till the year 2000 which were approved by the 17th Congress of the Czechoslovak Communist Party last year, and stressed that the party voiced its full support for the acceleration of socio-economic development approved by the congress. It endorses this line as it corresponds to the vital interests of the Czechoslovak people, Bohuslav Kucera said.

Speaking of the present political situation, he pointed out that the Soviet peace effort has gained new momentum and new dimensions. It is becoming ever more convincingly the determining factor of the development of international relations also for those circles which have been as yet blindly pursuing militarist theses.

Bohuslav Kucera underlined that also members and functionaries of the Czechoslovak Socialist Party responsibly fulfil their pledge to participate in the struggle for peace and [words indistinct] Committee for European Security and Cooperation, the Czechoslovak Society for International Relations and the Czechoslovak Committee of Solidarity with the People's of Afric, Asia and Latin America.

Attending the three-day conference are also some 200 guests and delegations of the Liberal Democratic Party of Germany from the GDR, the Polish Democratic Party, the Vietnamese Socialist Party and the Social Democratic Party from People's Korea.

Since its birth in 1948, the party has recognized and supported the leading role of the Czechoslovak Communist Party in the post-war construction and socialist development of the country. Under its leadership and together with three other political parties — the Czechoslovak People's Party, the Slovak Freedom Party and the Slovak Reconstruction Party — it acts in the framework of the National Front which associates more than 30 political and mass organizations in Czechoslovakia.

Kempny's Address

LD192134 Prague CTK in English 1910 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Prague Feb 19 (CTK) — "The strength of world socialism and its ever growing attraction in the world will depend on how united it will be and how successfully it will develop in the political and economic spheres, its scientific and technological progress", Josef Kempny said at the state-wide conference of the Czechoslovak Socialist Party today.

Josef Kempny, member of the Communist Party Presidium and chairman of the Czech National Council is heading a delegation of the Communist Party Central Committee and the National Front to the Socialist Party Conference.

Speaking about topical tasks of Czechoslovakia's development he underlined the international context in which the strategy of accelerating economic and social development of the country after the 17th Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia is being implemented.

"Time has put before us demands requiring concerted effort by all people. We follow up the victory of the socialist revolution in February 1948 and its reaffirmation in the struggle against right-wing opportunism and the counter-revolutionary threat at the end of the 1960's. We draw upon the inspiring process of the restoration of Leninism which is being launched by the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union headed by Mikhail Gorbachev", Josef Kempny said.

"We have the same aim with our Soviet comrades, have set out on the same path and our paths will be ever closer. This is the most important thing for us and the other socialist countries. At the same time we are taking into account the overall level and the concrete situation in which we find ourselves, our conditions and experiences."

"We fully espouse the upsurge of new ideas and political creativeness taking place in the Soviet Communist Party and society. It is also our policy to take an active attitude to this development and make bold use of the pioner ideas and deeds", Josef Kempny added.

He went on to say that just as the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia aims at achieving by the end of the century the same level of economic performance as developed capitalist states will achieve. This resolute action is being taken by the whole socialist community and this gives the Czechoslovak scientific-technological and economic strategy a distinctly internationalist content. Josef Kempny added that, united by the Comprehensive Program of Scientific-Technological progress up to the year 2000, the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance member states are striving to achieve the highest economic performance, to come level with the most developed capitalist countries and show the world that we have not only the best theory of social development but also the best results.

NEW DEPARTMENT HEAD VIEWS LOSS-MAKING FARMS

AU191340 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 13 Feb 87 p 3

[Article by Ivan Knotek, "Head of a CPCZ Central Committee Department": "Certainty Springs From Science and Financial Autonomy"]

[Excerpts] Despite the fulfillment of agricultural tasks in overall terms, we must not ignore the fact that the production of 10,781,000 metric tons of grain crops was 112,000 metric tons below the average harvest of the years of the Seventh 5-Year Plan and 620,000 metric tons below the plan. Only the East Bohemia, North Moravia, Central Slovakia, and East Slovakia regions managed to fulfill the planned production. Considerable shortfalls were also recorded in the production of potatoes, vegetables, hops, and — in the Slovak SR — sugar beets. Tasks in the production of animal produce were successfully met. Excellent results were achieved by dairy farmers in East Bohemia and South Moravia, who broke the limit of 4,000 liters [of annual milk yield] per dairy cow. [passage omitted] [paragraph continues]

The best results in meat production were achieved by breeders of South Bohemia and East Bohemia, who needed fewer than 3.4 kg of feedgrain for every kg of weight increment of hogs. [passage omitted]

The struggle against mediocrity and backwardness is a permanent task. We have on record in the CSSR a total of 359 united agricultural cooperatives and state farms that trail behind. These cooperatives and farms work on 18 percent of all agricultural land. Within the framework of economic recovery programs, they received total support in excess of Kcs4 billion last year.

This is a complicated problem, which was also pinpointed by the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium in September 1986. Many of the causes of these farms' trailing behind are of a long-term and objective nature. This concerns, in particular, state farms. However, this must not make us look for excuses for shortcomings. [passage omitted]

HUSAK, OTHERS ATTEND SOVIET EMBASSY RECEPTION

LD192037 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1900 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Major General Yuriy Chelpanov, the military and air attache at the Soviet Embassy in Czechoslovakia, held a reception today in Prague to mark the 69th anniversary of the founding of the Soviet Army and Navy. Along with Soviet Ambassador Viktor Lomakin, Chelpanov welcomed at the reception Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the republic; Lubomir Strougal, the federal premier; and Comrades Vasil Bilak, Milos Jakes, Antonin Kapek, Josef Korcak, Jan Fojtik, Josef Haman, Frantisek Pitra, Mikulas Beno and Jaroslav Hajn.

Representatives of the commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact nations attached to the Ministry of National Defense and of the command of the Central Group of Soviet Forces in Czechoslovakia, as well as other Soviet generals and officers, were among the guests. Also present were members of the Prague diplomatic corps.

The reception took place in a cordial and comradely atmosphere.

STROUGAL, JAKES RECEIVE POLISH DEPUTY PREMIER

LD200415 Prague CTK in English 2003 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Prague, Feb 19 (CTK) -- Czechoslovak Premier Lubomir Strougal received here today Polish Deputy Premier Zbigniew Szalajda who is heading a Polish delegation to the 23rd session of the Czechoslovak-Polish Committee for Economic and Scientific-Technological Cooperation.

They stressed that the with regard to the needs of the two countries and to the world parametres it is necessary to undertake in the future more challenging tasks in the deepening of economic and scientific-technological cooperation and in the solution of ecological questions and problems.

The Polish guest was also received today by Czechoslovak Communist Party Presidium member and Central Committee Secretary Milos Jakes.

The two officials noted that in spite of good results achieved in bilateral economic and scientific-technological cooperation, there are still great reserves for its further extension especially in the sphere of cooperation and specialization of production.

In this connection they underlined the necessity to speed up the implementation of the tasks following from the long-term program of economic and scientific-technological cooperation between Czechoslovakia and Poland up to the year 2000, and the implementation of the comprehensive program of scientific-technological progress of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance member states until the year 2000.

Milos Jakes and Zbigniew Szalajda also appreciated the significant results of the January session of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee and the effort of the Soviet Union in the struggle for peace.

CPCZ CC GREETS LEBANESE COMMUNISTS' CONGRESS

AU111501 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 5 Feb 87 p 7

[CTK report: "The Lebanese Communist Party Fifth Congress; Josef Valenta Presented CPCZ Central Committee's Message"]

[Excerpt] Beirut -- The Lebanese Communist Party [LCP] Fifth Congress continued yesterday in B'aqlin, southeast of Beirut. Josef Valenta, member of the CPCZ's Central Control and Auditing Commission and chief editor of ZIVOT STRANY, who is heading the CPCZ delegation to the congress, presented the leading representatives of the host party with the CPCZ Central Committee's message.

The document states that the LCP Fifth Congress is being held in a most difficult period, when imperialism and Zionism, supported by reactionary forces, are waging unceasing attacks against Lebanon's national independence and territorial integrity and are exacerbating tension in the world. The document expresses appreciation of the fact that the Lebanese Communists are backing the consolidation of international solidarity and that they are consistently following the principles of Marxism-Leninism in their activities. The LCP is a firm and active component of the international communist and workers movement, the CPCZ Central Committee's message says. [passage omitted]

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON AXEN VISIT TO SPAIN

Meets Spanish Parliamentarians

LD191635 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1315 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Madrid, 19 Feb (ADN) — Hermann Axen, member of the Politburo, secretary of the SED Central Committee, and chairman of the GDR People's Chamber Foreign Policy Committee, met Miguel Angel Martinez, vice president of the Spanish Congress of Deputies and chairman of the Foreign Policy Commission, and other deputies for an exchange of views today. Axen is in Madrid at the invitation of the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party.

During the discussion the two sides stressed the need and readiness to continue and extend high-level contacts that have long existed between the two parliaments.

Hermann Axen was received the same day by Jose Federico de Carvajal y Perez, president of the Spanish Senate. The Spanish politician expressed his cordial thanks for the greetings from Horst Sindermann, president of the GDR People's Chamber, whose visit to Spain in 1984 led to considerable impulses for developing of bilateral relations.

The two politicians agreed that averting the threat of mankind's nuclear destruction required increased cooperation between all forces supporting reason and realism.

Hermann Axen paid tribute to the positive development of mutual parliamentary contacts and the personal services of Jose Federico de Carvajal in developing the friendly relations between the two countries' parliamentarians.

Talks With Spanish Communist

LD200432 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1701 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Madrid, 19 Feb (ADN) — Hermann Axen, SED Politburo member and Central Committee secretary, had a meeting in Madrid today with Ignacio Gallego, secretary general of the Communist Party of the Peoples of Spain [PCPE], for a friendly discussion. He conveyed cordial greetings to the Spanish party leader from Erich Honecker that Ignacio Gallego asked to be reciprocated. The two sides stressed the close, trusting relations between the SED and PCPE.

Ignacio Gallgeo spoke out in favor of further developing relations between the GDR and Spain and paid tribute to the visit by the SED delegation, headed by Hermann Axen, to Spain as an important event. This corresponds with the desires and interests of both peoples. Ignacio Gallego reported on his party's struggle to strengthen the peace movement and spoke in defense of the workers' national and social interests. He stressed the efforts to reestablish the unity of Spanish Communists. The PCPE regards the peace struggle as the crucial issue of the present.

Hermann Axen reported on the successful implementation of the 11th SED Congress decisions. Ignacio Gallego emphasized the great importance of stable, dynamic development of real socialism in the GDR for strengthening the forces of peace, democracy, and social progress.

The two sides concurred in noting that the rearmament policy pursued by the most aggressive circles of U.S. imperialism, particularly its "Star Wars" program, represents an increasing threat to peace. That is why it is important to step up efforts of all forces prepared to reach agreement to bring about a change for the better in international relations. Encouragement for this has emanated from the far-reaching disarmament proposals by the Soviet Union and the socialist community, stressed Ignacio Gallego.

Meets With Foreign Minister

LD200437 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1849 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Madrid, 19 Feb (ADN) -- Hermann Axen, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, had a discussion today with Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez-Ordonez. The partners in the talks exchanged views on questions relating to securing of peace, disarmament and the peaceful solution of conflicts. They noted the visit by the GDR delegation to Madrid is an expression of the positive overall balance of bilateral relations and of striving by both states to make use of all possibilities to further build stable, mutually beneficial cooperation.

Hermann Axen and Francisco Fernandez-Ordonez noted concurring or similar views on important global and regional questions and called for continuing and deepening the political dialogue between the two states' leading representatives in the interest of improving East-West relations, especially in Europe.

Assuming the reality of the existing alliance systems, the political figures agreed that international security is indivisible and can be achieved only by considering the legitimate interests of all states. They affirmed their belief that following the Reykjavik summit it is necessary to make responsible use of real opportunities to avert the danger of a nuclear war and to stop the nuclear and conventional arms race. Prior to the meeting in the Foreign Ministry, Hermann Axen met high-ranking representatives of the Spanish economy.

PRC AIR AGREEMENT SIGNED; ROUTE TO OPEN 'SOON'

LD182137 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1717 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Text] Berlin, 18 Feb (ADN) -- An air traffic agreement between the GDR and the PRC was signed in Berlin today. The agreement, signed by GDR Deputy Transportation Minister Klaus Henkes and Director General of the PRC Civil Aviation General Administration Hu Yizhou, regulates the air traffic soon to commence between Berlin and Beijing.

With a length of 8,110 km, this air route is more than 2,000 km shorter than comparable routes of other airlines from Central and West Europe to China. It thus offers the quickest and most favorably-priced air link between Central Europe and China. The actual flight time is 9 hours and 50 minutes.

The signing of the air traffic agreement is an expression of steadily developing relations between the GDR and PRC and promotes cooperation between the two countries. In setting up this new air route, the airlines of the GDR and the PRC meet the growing demand for speedier air links between the continents. At Berlin-Schoenefeld Airport there are thus possibilities for good connections with other Interflug air links, especially to Africa and Central America. The new air route will also help to shorten the transportation times for air freight.

BANYASZ COMMENTS ON COUNCIL OF MINISTERS SESSION

AU191403 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 13 Feb 87 pp 1, 4

[Correspondents' report: "Council of Ministers Holds Session -- A Battle Should Be Won in Agriculture -- Government Spokesman's News Conference"]

[Excerpts] Rezso Banyasz, chairman of the Information Office and government spokesman, supplied the following information on the session of the Council of Ministers held on 12 February:

At its meeting today, the Council of Ministers discussed the reports on the implementation of the people's economic plan for 1986, financial and economic control, and on the supervision of people's control in 1986.

The government also discussed the report submitted by the Central People's Control Committee on the quality of housing construction and the responsibility of providing guarantees for construction. In connection with this, the government concluded that faults continue to be found in the quality of housing and the fulfillment of guarantee obligations. The government instructed the organs responsible to take the necessary steps.

The Council of Minsters accepted the report on the implementation of the law on compulsory school attendance and gave instructions for the application of the experience gained.

Then, State Secretary Rezso Banyasz answered journalists' questions. [passage omitted on the need to make up for the losses from a bad economic year in 1986]

The NEPSZAVA correspondent asked about the manpower regrouping and the measures taken in this respect.

[Banyasz] Much is said about manpower mobility in the mass media and, I think, also among the public, about what kind of regrouping can or will take place in order to achieve more efficient employment and the essential and inevitable structural reorganization of the economy. One has been able to hear about these issues in many forums lately; the National Council of Trade Unions also discussed them recently. The government is, of course, closely following these processes and will take the preliminary measures. [passage omitted] The government will, of course, adopt a position in favor of all units that not only speak but also act for efficient economic management. All those who act in this way also deserve the support of society. [passage omitted on housing quality, the need to provide guarantees for construction quality, lack of adequate manpower in the building industry, private construction, and regulations protecting tenants]

The MAGYAR NEMZET correspondent wanted to know about the joint report made by the Central People's Control Committee and the Ministry of Education on the implementation of the law on compulsory school attendence.

[Banyasz] The report contains both positive and negative experiences. The basic problem concerns general school education. It seems that the general school curriculum did not take into account the schoolchildren's physical and psychological attaributes or their capacity. [passage omitted on the low level of knowledge among elementary school children, the lack of classrooms and laboratories, and the role of families in assisting the schools]

The NEPSZAVA correspondent asked about the experiences of last year's financial examination, particularly regarding excessive personal incomes acquired without adequate performance.

[Banyasz] [passage omitted] The examination concluded that there has not been any considerable improvement in economic morale. Negative phenomena are not due to the lack of regulations. There are enough regulations. The above mentioned incomes and unjustified advantages are derived mostly from the violation of the existing regulations, and here we must stress the leaders' responsibility. [passage omitted]

The Hungarian Radio correspondent asked about foreign reaction to the modernization of the banking system.

[Banyasz] There has been great interest in the development of the banking system both in the neighboring socialist countries and the capitalist countries. It transpires from their opinions that these countries know and appreciate the essence and importance of our steps; they agree that the current changes are an organic part of the process of economic reform and of its continuation. [passage omitted on measures aimed at increasing security in museums and public collections of valuable arts, and the results achieved by Banyasz in his talks with his Yugoslav counterpart]

The MAGYAR NEMZET correspondent asked the spokesman about the fate of the TISZATAJ journal published in Szeged.

[Banyasz] "It is well known that the sponsor of the Tiszataj county journal last year decided on a reorganization of the journal. Therefore, the journal did not appear in the second half of 1986. Towards the end of 1986, according to the stipulations of the new press law, the owner of the journal, the Csongrad County Council, made a proposal for a new composition of its editorial staff. Agreeing with their proposal, and in accordance with the press law and its stipulations, I appointed writer Bela Toth, winner of the Jozsef Attila prize and director of the Somogyi Library in Szeged, as chairman of the editorial committee of the TISZATAJ; university lecturer Dr Marton Kaposi as chief editor; and literary historian Dr Andras Lengyel as deputy chief editor. The members of the editorial committee and the other editorial staff were also appointed. Following the appointments, work began immediately. I have learned that the combined January-February 1987 issue will be published at the beginning of March. Of course, the staff of the TISZATAJ are also working diligently on future issues of the journal. [passage omitted on debate on certain aspects of government policy]

FURTHER COVERAGE OF LAZAR VISIT TO ITALY

Tours Vatican, Meets Pope

LD200344 Budapest MTI in English 1808 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Rome, February 19 (MTI) — On Thursday Gyorgy Lazar, chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers visited the Vatican where he was received by Pope John Paul II. Following the meeting the Hungarian prime minister travelled to Venice, where his host was the chairman of the regional council of Veneto.

In the early morning the Hungarian prime minister visited the capitolium in Rome, accompanied by the mayor of Rome, Nicola Signorello. In an address at a brief ceremony the mayor discussed relations between Budapest and Rome, pointing out that there were many historical and cultural elements of the past held in common.

In his reply Gyorgy Lazar expressed the conviction that relations between the two capital cities were also contributing to further intensifying Italian-Hungarian cooperation. In the Vatican, Gyorgy Lazar, his wife and party first visited the sights. The half hour talks with the head of the Roman Catholic Church included exchanges of views on topical international issues, the relationship between the Hungarian state and the Roman Catholic Church and relations between the Hungarian People's Republic and the Vatican. They agreed that contacts were stable, and that in future there should be greater importance given to maintaining and advancing the relations.

Following the private audience Mrs. Lazar and the personalities accompanying the prime minister were introduced to the Pope. Then Gyorgy Lazar met with Cardinal Casaroli, state secretary. During the exchange of views the phases in the development of relations between the Hungarian People's Republic and the Vatican over the past quarter century were mentioned, stressing that it would continue to be necessary to maintain dialogue between people of different world outlooks. They concluded that the recent Marxist-Catholic dialogue held in Budapest was a good example.

The Hungarian Government head then went to Venice. At the airport in Rome Gyorgy Lazar was seen off by Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi.

Sees Venice; Concludes Visit

LD200347 Budapest MTI in English 1945 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Venice, February 19 (MTI) — In Venice, the leaders of the Province of Veneto and the Municipality of Venice gave a dinner in honour of the Hungarian guests, who then visited the factory unit of the Montedison petro-chemical factory in Porto Marghera. The industrial complex produces fertilizer, basic materials for the plastics industry and semi-finished plastics. The Montedison group has successful relations of several decades with Hungarian industrial enterprises. It is considered that technical and technological cooperation should be further strengthened and intentions are to found a joint venture. The parties equally welcomed the ideas on further improving economic relations. As Gyorgy Lazar noted, it is not simply an issue of expanding on trade contacts but of evolving production cooperation which in the future can play a determining role in the economic relations of the two countries.

The chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers had an informal meeting with the leaders of political, economic and cultural life in the Province of Veneto.

Gyorgy Lazar's three day visit to Italy was concluded in Venice. The chairman of the Council of Ministers and the personalities accompanying him left for Budapest in the evening.

Met by Officials On Return

LD200350 Budapest MTI in English 2037 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Budapest, February 19 (MTI) — Gyorgy Lazar, chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers returned from an official visit to Italy at the Invitation of Italian prime minister Bettino Craxi. The Hungarian prime minister was accompanied by his wife.

The accompanying party was Istvan Torok, state secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Trade, Hungarian co-chairman of the Hungarian-Italian Mixed Committee for Economics; Rezso Banyasz, state secretary, president of the Information Office of the Council of Ministers; Imre Szabo, state secretary at the Ministry of Industry; Imre Miklos, state secretary, president of the State Office on Church Affairs and Laszlo Kovacs, deputy minister of foreign affairs. Gyorgy Misur, Hungary's ambassador to Italy, joined the delegation in Rome.

The chairman of the Council of Ministers was met at Budapest's Ferihegy airport by Deputy Prime Minister Laszlo Marothy, president of the National Planning Office and by Minister of Foreign Affairs Peter Varkonyi. Present was Salvatore Cilento, temporary charge d'affaires of the Italian Embassy in Hungary.

MARJAI MEETS WITH GREEK BUSINESSMEN IN ATHENS

LD200355 Budapest MTI in English 1812 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Athens, February 19 (MTI) — Jozsef Marjai, deputy chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers met with representatives of Greek business life in Athens Thursday.

He briefed the representatives of the Greek state-owned, cooperative and private sectors on the major objectives of Hungarian economic policy and the tasks involved in advancing the national economy. In analyzing the situation of Hungarian-Greek economic cooperation he called attention to the fact that a significant part of available opportunities were as yet unexploited. He stressed that Hungary is ready to advance long term coopertion between companies of the two countries, and supports the establishment of joint ventures and the development of production cooperation.

CZINEGE DEPARTS FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA TOUR

LD200439 Budapest MTI in English 2103 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Budapest, February 19 (MTI) — Lajos Czinege, deputy chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers left for Southeast Asia Thursday. He will visit the People's Republic of Kampuchea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. As Hungarian co-chairman he will participate in the forthcoming sessions of the bilateral economic and technological and scientific cooperation committees.

BRIEFS

SOVIET ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS — Budapest, February 19 (MTI) — At the Ministry of Industry Thursday the members of the delegation of Soviet scientists currently in Hungary held a consultation on economic matters with the members of the Council on Industrial Policy, and with the heads of the industrial enterprises most involved in Hungarian-Soviet cooperation. The delegation reviewed the aspirations for the renewal of the Soviet economy and the major elements of the reform in economic management. [Text] [Budapest MTI in English 2011 GMT 19 Feb 87 LD]

ENVOY TO PHILIPPINES — Manila, February 13 (MTI) — Gyula Baranyi, Hungarian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Republic of the Philippines, presented his credentials to President Corazon Aquino. [Text] [Budapest MTI in English 1700 GMT 13 Feb 87 LD]

END OF U.S. SANCTIONS PROMPTS POSITIVE OUTLOOK

Government Statement Issued

LD191927 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1830 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Statement issued by Polish government spokesman for ABC Television]

[Text] The Polish Government welcomes the lifting of unlawful restrictions that inflicted considerable damage on Polish society. We consider the lifting of restrictions as a first step in the further improvement of Polish-U.S. relations. The development of these relations must be free from attempts to interfere in our internal matters. With the lifting of restrictions, one of the burdens on East-West relations should disappear.

We believe the development of bilaterally beneficial economic cooperation will contribute to the gradual reduction of many negative consequences caused by the restrictions.

End of Sanctions 'First Step'

LD191858 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1800 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Here is a commentary by Zdizislaw Stankiewicz on the U.S. announcement on the lifting of sanctions.

[Stankiewicz] Indeed, this is a step in the right direction, toward a return to normality in international relations and in economic cooperation in particular. The lifting of restrictions must not be underestimated; however it must not be overestimated, either.

This cancellation does not compensate for the losses caused by the decision to impose a trade embargo on Poland. The losses were suffered not by the government of our country, but by society as a whole. As the result of the sanctions, which initially were also imposed by other Western countries, we lost a considerable number of traditional markets to which it will not be easy to return. It will take many years, and those years will continue to remind us of the U.S. sanctions.

Obviously, it is good that a reasonable decision has been taken in Washington. However, it is regrettable that it came so late. Other states and other politicians much earlier came to the conclusion of the ineffectiveness of such a policy. Now this realization has dawned on the other side of the ocean.

Let us consider this as the first sign that the process of normalization has begun in political relations between Poland and the United States. The first step has been made. Let us hope that we shall soon be taking the next steps.

'New Chapter' of Relations Begins

AU191305 Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 13 Feb 87 p 5

[Ewa Boniecka commentary: "Poland-USA -- The Beginning of a New Chapter?"]

[Text] Polish-American relations possess two planes: bilateral and East-West. Their freeze in recent years not only caused specific harm to both sides but also damaged international relations because of the position of the United States and Poland's role in the socialist community and Europe. That is why the resumption of Polish-U.S. dialogue at senior government level is an important political fact. The PPR Government's aim to improve relations has at last met with an affirmative response from the Washington administration.

This response does not stem from a vacuum. It is the result of the normalization of Poland's domestic situation, the consolidation of its role in the international arena, and, most of all, the result of the failure of Ronald Reagan's strategy toward our country. Although the long-term goal of American politics has always been and still is to animate decentralizing trends in Eastern Europe, Washington has now recognized the open disruption of East-West relations as unrealistic and therefore senseless in light of the current European situation and an assessment of the balance of forces.

The United States views Europe primarily from the point of view of its own interests and the state of its relations with the USSR. That is how it has always been and always will be. This means certain domestic situations in the socialist countries are used as tools for the United States' own purposes. This strategy is connected with the quality of relations with the second nuclear power. During the period of openly hostile propaganda, the countries of Eastern Europe were brutally exploited. But during the period of establishing better relations with the Soviet Union, USSR allies have been treated more soberly and pragmatically.

A look at the past 6 years of Ronald Reagan's tenure confirms this completely. Here one should recall the theory of a so-called new interpretation of Yalta and the occasional tirades questioning the postwar status quo in Europe, both of which were so loud during the early part of his office. These theories may return. However, right now relations between both sides are dominated by disarmament problems. Ronald Reagan is on the defensive against Mikhail Gorbachev's initiative and is not engaging in ideological confrontation.

Against this background, the trip by Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead to Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Bulgaria is an expression of Washington's desire to revive, and in Poland's case restore, bilateral ties with USSR allies.

Poland's strength lies in its important position among the socialist countries. For some time, American political circles have been pervaded by the conviction that the domestic situation in Poland has stabilized despite the difficult economic situation. Although the U.S. mass media sometimes present the views of the opposition concerning the PPR Government, American experts reckon that their influence is minimal. The existence of dialogue between the government and church is not denied. Since the July Amnesty, there has not even been any pretext to "taunt the regime." In America itself, members of Congress and influential commentators, not to mention the Congress of American Poles, have been demanding the lifting of the last remaining sanctions against Poland.

Even the most hardened anticommunist activists in the United States are noticing the great changes taking place in the economic and social policy of the USSR, Poland, and other socialist states, as well as the aims of the USSR and its allies to restrict weapons. There is wide publicity about the need for the West to take advantage of the USSR and Eastern Europe's broad invitation to dialogue and detente.

The resumption of Polish-American dialogue resulting from last November's Vienna meeting between Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs Jan Kinast and Assistant Secretary of State Rosanne Ridgway, plus the favorable assessment made of Whitehead's visit to Poland, have opened a new stage in political relations between Poland and the United States. This does not mean that progress in these relations will be easy. After all, to achieve full normalization it is essential that the U.S. Government withdraw the remaining sanctions that were imposed unlawfully and caused our country huge damage. It is difficult to talk of improving relations without a return to normal full economic ties.

As General Wojciech Jaruzelski said at the conclusion of the "Jablonna 6" international journalists conference at the end of last year: "We expect no special privileges, although to tell the truth, the damage caused by the restructions would justify such an expectation. All we want is for our relations to be based on normal, generally accepted principles. I believe that mutually advantageous cooperation will be possible, and that it also lies in the interests of the United States."

There is no doubt that the restrictions felt by the whole of society and the collapse of Polish-American relations in all spheres provided the Poles with much food for thought. They made them realize the importance of stable mutual economic contacts with the United States. Poland wants such contacts. Bringing back the most favored nation clause would be merely a return to the normal trade practices applied by the United States toward other countries. The thaw of credit guarantees would lead to a gradual revival of imports and cooperation between both states. Mutual advantages count in the entire field of economic relations.

The inflated problems of Polish-American relations solved through diplomatic contacts shows Washington that the time has finally come to take a more sober look at relations with our country. The previous state of affairs did not serve the interests of both states or their allies.

There is a difficult road leading from the start of political dialogue to the full reconstruction of Polish-American relations. It requires concrete economic decisions by Washington and the continuation of high-level talks and contacts aimed at normalization. Progress in these is also an important contribution toward the development of East-West cooperation.

The modern world is too interdependent to let "blank areas" in bilateral relations between a superpower like the U.S. and Poland, occupying an important place in the European order, distort the political scene. It is Warsaw's purpose to open a new chapter in Polish-U.S. relations. Right now Washington is declaring the same. In other words, it is time for concrete measures beyond the Ocean.

Milan Svec, who is connected with the well-known Carnegie Foundation in New York, wrote the following in a NEW YORK TIMES article calling for closer relations with Poland and the whole of Eastern Europe: "The changing political reality in each of these countries requires energetic and multifaceted action from America. Mikhail Gorbachev's policy and the numerous reforms in these countries require a new look at Eastern Europe from Washington."

SPOKESMAN URBAN GIVES NEWS CONFERENCE 10 FEB

AU191232 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 16 Feb 87 p 4

["Transcript" of news conference given by Jerzy Urban for foreign and Polish journalists in Warsaw on 10 February]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Irena Czekierska, REUTER: Could you tell us about yesterday's meeting between Minister Krawczuk and Polish writers? Who were these writers? What did they discuss?

Urban: They were writers. If you want to know who they were, I have to tell you that the meeting in question decided that no names would be published lest people might be suspicious that the authorities would at once use for propaganda purposes the fact that a writer who so far has refused to associate with the authorities is ready to engage in dialogue with then. I will disclose no names. All I can tell you is that the spectrum of writers' political views was wide and that the discussion was candid and lively. The writers discussed the things that bothered them, and they seem to have reached accord on the following issues:

First, they agreed to observe some standards of decency in public disputes, which means a return to friendly relations in this divided community. Second, it was decided to search for a kind of a permanent conciliation forum, perhaps under the aegis of the minister of culture, in which writers professing different outlooks could engage in dialogue. Third, the meeting asked for a new publication — a purely literary publication as the writers put it — that would deal with literature and nothing else. Fourth, the writers decided to meet once again this year. Our view is that this Radziejowice meeting was a success and a necessity. Those who had been invited but failed to turn up (usually they excused themselves for various personal reasons) should really regret they were absent. [passage omitted]

Michael Kaufman, NEW YORK TIMES: I have three questions. The first concerns your statement about VOA. Please tell us whether requests were made to the U.S. Embassy in Warsaw or to the government agencies in Washington for a confirmation that VOA views really reflects the U.S. Government's views. Should we assume that Polish-American relations make it possible to obtain such a confirmation? Is not your statement today merely a confirmation of the fact that you take really seriously whatever is included in the VOA statements? I am sorry, I mean that you do not take it really seriously.

Urban: The U.S. Embassy was informed in advance about my statement. If a U.S. radio station run by the government broadcasts a statement, stressing that it expresses the views of the U.S. Government, then we are entitled to assume that this is really so. I am certain that, on the whole, you do not doubt that official statements broadcast by Polish Radio as based on government sources do represent the views of the Polish Government. If I have made reservations — there is no abuse of VOA, which follows its own aggressive line against Poland, if it does not exceed its powers. [sentence as published] The next question please.

M. Kaufman: My second question is a request for a clarification. I have received information that implies that a strike occurred during all shifts in the G-6 shop of the ZM coalmine in Zory.

Urban: I have no such information. This is not a denial. This is merely an act of undermining the probability of your information. On the whole, we do receive information about such events if they take place.

M. Kaufman: My third question is a request for a comment on a rumor that Professor Krawczuk sent a letter to Premier Messner. In this letter, the professor doubts your right, Minister Urban, to pronounce who is and who is not a writer. The professor cited the example of Homer, who did not publish any boodk, but can certainly be considered a writer.

Urban: It is not true that such a letter was written and mailed. But even if this is true, I would never disclose the contents of the internal correspondence between a minister and the premier. This is just a caveat since no such letter exists. [passage omitted]

Wojciech Roszewski, SPRAWY I LUDZIE: Actually I have no question. All I want to do is address a kind of appeal to certain people via this news conference. The appeal concerns Minister Krawczuk's meeting with writers in Radziejowice.

Urban: I am sorry, but this is no place for making appeals. I apologize to you, but let us not create a precedent.

Before we go home, I would like to say a few words. These news conferences have been held a number of years and will continue to be held every Tuesday. Because so many journalists attend then I see this as proof that the conferences help them in their work. However, when I read the Western press reports about Poland I always am stuck by one feature of the way these news conferences are handled. Western journalists rarely publish the questions they ask me and the answers they obtain. That is why I do not always know why the ask some of their questions.

Another thing: Some Western mass media reported recently that Professor Klemens Szaniawski had been refused a passport for travel abroad and that not reason has been given. To be sure, Professor Szaniawski received an extensive, informal, and candid explanation why he had been refused a passport. It is possible that he will receive yet another explanationn. In any case, he passed over, in silence, that he had received an explanation when he complained to journalists. But this is not the point.

The point is that several Western media immediately publicized the report that Professor Szaniawski had been refused a passport, but only a single Western press agency did report on my information that 3.5 million Poles travelled abroad in 1986, how many went to the Western and how many to the Eastern countries, how many emigrated, how many fled Poland, and how many elected to live in so-called freedom. Another issue that arouses my interest is whether Western journalists really believe their information is objective. Thank you very much.

PAP REPORTS 17 FEB PZPR POLITBURO MEETING

LD192154 Warsaw PAP in English 2111 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Text] Warsaw, Feb 18 -- On February 17, the PUWP CC Political Bureau discussed the fundamental issues of the role of self-government and its participation in the fulfillment of the resolution of the third CC plenum.

Active part in the debate was taken by chairmen of Workers' Councils from a score of large plants and by Stanislaw Kania, the chairman of the Sejm Self-Government Affairs Committee.

Information on the realization of the decisions reached at previous sessions of the Political Bureau devoted to the activeness of crews' self-government was a starting point for the discussion.

The participants stated that accelerating qualitative changes in economic management is the primary condition for accomplishing the goals of the current five-year period. It will be possible to achieve economic equilibrium faster only when the consequences ties with this are accepted, namely: a fundamental limitation of subsidies, a rationalization of prices, strict observance of the principle of self-financing, a harsh regime of saving and work discipline.

The party expects that the crew self-government -- an important social force and an institution inextricably ties with economic reform -- will play a growing part in the construction of common support for its second stage. The point is to accept and put into effect concrete solutions improving the effectiveness of specific enterprises, to understand the working class and the crew, and the decisions which tie wages to the real effects of labour.

The initiative and high activity of crews can be achieved, first and foremost, when employees have a real influence on the situation in their plants, when there exists a connection between the amount and quality of individual and crew work and the volume of incomes and when this connection is understood. What is needed is such organization of the production process as to enable workers' teams to show their own initiative and activity to an increasingly greater degree.

Much attention was devoted to the issue of introducing team forms of work organization in enterprises. Expanding the process of workers' self-organization is an important direction in the development of the idea of workers' self-government.

The Political Bureau deemed the appropriate participation and greater activity of activists of the crew self-government in the socio-economic council attached to the Sejm and securing their relevant representation in voivodship socio-economic councils as indispensable. It spoke in favour of creating self-government consultation teams attached to founding bodies and people's councils.

The Political Bureau acquainted itself with the state of work on the draft law on social consultations and referendum.

The draft when was opined [as received] in various social circles contains proposals of founding a referendum as a new form of the direct participation of citizens in governing, stated the Political Bureau. This way it will be possible to express one's will concerning solutions of vital importance to the country and local communities.

The draft law also describes the principles of the form and procedure of holding social consultations and using their results.

It takes into account the binding norms which oblige bodies of state authority to consult and opine important decisions, for instance, in socioeconomic and spatial planning and the shaping of the living conditions of citizens.

The Political Bureau supports the proposals of the Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth PRON and PUWP Sejm floor group of tabling a draft law on social consultations and referendum to the Sejm in the nearest future.

The Political Bureau drew attention to the still existing difficulties in common access to books. It thought that publishing activity should be focused on more fully satisfying mass and educational reading needs. This can be achieved through, among other things, the publication of several dozen most sought-after titles in the years 1987-1989 in impressions securing market saturation. Support was expressed for the intention of publishing a great encyclopedia and "the most outstanding pieces of People's Poland Literature" series.

FRG TV INTERVIEWS SEJM VICE PRESIDENT

DW181400 Mainz ZDF Television Network in German 2045 GMT 17 Feb 87

[Interview with Sejm Vice President Mieczyslaw Rakowski by moderator Dieter Kronzucker in Bonn on 17 February on the "Heute-Journal" program; Rakowski speaks in German -- recorded]

[Text] [Kronzucker] Mr Rakowski, you are a Central Committee member and party chief Jaruzelski's confidant. What do you, as a Pole, think about developments in the USSR?

[Rakowski] I would like to say that we are constantly watching developments, and we notice that almost every day we get a new important surprise from Moscow. Of course, we watch developments with great interest. I and others feel we are facing revolutionary changes, as Gorbachev said. In practice, this means that the Soviet Union is undergoing a process of modernization in all fields or is trying to modernize itself. I think this marks the beginning of a new phase in the development of socialism. There is no doubt that the events in Moscow and the Soviet Union will have an impact on our development, too, not in the sense that we are dependent on developments in the Soviet Union, but we cannot isolate ourselves from what is happening there right now. I am almost enthusiatic about developments in the Soviet Union.

[Kronzucker] So that answers the question whether it is an agreeable surprise for you. However, let me ask you again, Mr Rakowski: Do you consider those developments a continuation of the course that Poland has been pursuing for several years, or is it a kind of mutual influence?

[Rakowski] It is a mutual influence, I think. Every country has its characteristics. Developments in Poland have other roots than developments in the Soviet Union. As we all know, we were facing a economic crisis. We were facing mass protests in the early eighties, and that is not the case in the Soviet Union. I think mutual influence is almost a logic. Therefore, I would not say that the Soviet Union is following our example, even if the Soviet Union and Gorbachev have watched developments in Poland with great interest.

[Krunzucker] Mr Rakowski, you were among those who supported the reform course in 1957, the so-called Polish spring.

Do those developments make it easier for you to accept opposition in your own country and thus activate forces for the leadership of your country?

[Rakowski] It is always easier when you are not alone.

ZMW PREPARES TO CELEBRATE 30TH ANNIVERSARY

AU191531 Warsaw SZTANDAR MLODYCH in Polish 11 Feb 87 p 2

[Text] PAP — The Rural Youth Union [ZMW] celebrates its 30th anniversary this year. We wish to recall the most important values that have shaped the image of the Polish rural areas and our organization, Kazimierz Dlugosz, chairman of the Committee for Celebrating the 30th ZMW Anniversary, said at a news conference on 10 February. Building bridges between the past and the present will be done by artistic and scientific functions organized by ZMW circles and boards. Meetings of generations will also be organized to enable former ZMW members to share their experience with present ZMW activists.

On 10 February a 2-day seminar began in Warsaw on the cooperation of rural youth organizations and related institutions and organizations over the past 30 years. Addressing representatives of these institutions and organizations, Leszek Lesniak, chairman of the ZMW Plant Committee, expressed the hope that as it develops and gains strength the ZMW will intensify its cooperation with other organizations and produce new values. Stressing the various forms of cooperation in the past, the participants in the seminar pointed to the forms that can be successfully used at present.

NATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED

LD192115 Warsaw PAP in English 1830 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Warsaw, Feb 19 — [The] Polish prime minister has issued a decree on the foundation of an experts' committee for national education. Among the tasks of the new body is to work out ideas of the development of national education in Poland and to propose model solutions for the education system.

It is expected that the committee will make a diagnosis of the current system of education, its basic institutions, mechanisms and effects of its functioning.

The committee is also to propose the directions and principles of the reconstruction of the educational system in Poland, taking under consideration long-term social and economic needs.

According to the decree, the committee is to present its findings to the prime minister by the end of 1989.

The committee is chaired by Professor Czeslaw Kupisiewicz of the Warsaw University. A number of outstanding scholars and teachers from all types of schools sit on the new body.

REPORT OUTLINES CONDITION OF PRIVATE FARMING

AU200852 Paris ZNAKI CZASU in Polish October-December 1986 pp 162-173

["Excerpts" from the report on the condition of rural areas and agriculture in Poland compiled in April 1986 by Boleslaw Banaszkiewicz, Leon Bojko, Piotr Dabrowski, Eugenia Jagiello-Lysiowa, Roman Jakubowski, Stefan Jelinowski, J. Krzyzanowski, Aleksander Lutyk, Joanna Papuzinska, Adam Strzembosz, Ryszard Turski, Jerzy Milkin, and Andrzej Zakrzewski during a seminar at the Christian Culture Study of the Trinity Church in Warsaw and submitted to Cardinal Jozef Glemp -- Part One]

[Excerpts] Our country is going through a crisis that is probably the most severe in our history. This crisis has affected rural areas and has stricken agriculture, which continues to receive unprecedented attention from the public harassed by the difficulties of daily life. [passage omitted]

Farm Policy [subhead]

It can be said that the situation of Polish farming is unique. Poland is the only country of real socialism in which it has been possible to maintain private ownership of land and in which the peasants are numerous and able to influence social, economic, and political life, although this influence is not direct and not always discernible. The uniqueness of Polish farming is also determined by another feature, which has been passed over in silence and camouflaged with significant consistency: During the postwar years the structure of farms has clearly deteriorated. [passage omitted]

The departure from massive collectivization of farming and the fact that the strategy connected with this collectivization has been abandoned have been responsible for society's general belief that the governing party has radically departed from its ideological and doctrinal principles. This belief claims the "socialization of rural areas" is impossible in Poland and that its political and economic costs would be too high. However, it is precisely the situation of the Polish peasants, the degradation of private farming, and the blocking of its development that enjoin us to take a closer look at PPR farm policy and to fathom its nature -- not easily done due to intensive "masking" propaganda efforts that do not seek to "frighten the peasant" but try to create a climate of benevolence and friendliness on the part of the governing party and the state apparatus. It must be conceded that these efforts are only too effective. Other societal groups envy the peasants because people generally believe that the present crisis has hit peasants least of all and that the authorities, who were "taught a lesson" by the sad experience of the upheavals that often shook them during successive food crises, have this time "left peasants in peace" and finally given up the ideological and doctrinal principles of farm policy. [passage omitted]

The basic aim the party has always followed vis-a-vis farming is to "socialize the rural areas." [passage omitted] The party has never given up the task of introducing socialist conditions into the rural areas. "The sixties were a period of reduced activity in promoting the socialist reconstruction of farming. This does not mean that efforts to implement the strategic aim of the party's farm policy -- the technical and socioeconomic reconstruction of the rural areas and farming -- were abandoned. On the contrary, in all its documents the party has stressed the importance of reconstructing the farming system and has created a system of priorities for socialized farming enterprises." (The PPR's Farm Policy -- Selected Issues, 1976)

Let us add that the sixties were also a period in which the development of private farms was endangered. The party did abandon the strategy of collectivization, but it proceeded to avert the development of private farms. After 1956 compulsory deliveries continued to be maintained, increasing taxation was imposed on farms of over 8 hectares, farmers were socially discriminated against, purchases of farm machines were blocked, agricultural circles were deprived of their powers, and so on. [passage omitted]

Private farming continued to be "hemmed in" with increasing thoroughness by the "socialist environment." All the instruments the state apparatus could use were employed for this purpose. One such instrument was the reform of the rural administrations in 1973. "The aim of the reform is to creat social, organizational, and personnel conditions in favor of the comprehensive, socialist development of the rural areas, progress in farm production, further modernization of the system of management, and the strengthening of socialist democracy and democratic centralism," the sixth plenum resolution of September 1972 stated. [passage omitted]

In September 1976 (following the events in June of that year) in his report to the fourth Central Committee plenum Edward Gierek gave this assurance: "As for its farm policy, which was drawn up in cooperation with the ZSL and which is being jointly implemented, the party follows the unchangeable principle of uniting measures aimed at increasing farm production with activities favoring gradual socialist social changes in farming, and in favor of progress in the working and living conditions in rural areas."

In January 1977, 4 months later, a violent turn of events took place in tactics vis-a-vis farmers in that private farming was recognized as part and parcel of Poilish reality. Propaganda again began to court the peasants, and the state administration was instructed to "activate small farms' production." These dates are crucial in order to understand the highways and byways of farm policy.

The first stage of the seventies began with crucial and basic concessions to the peasants. The hikes of farm produce procurement prices at the end of 1970 and the beginning of 1971 thorougly changed the economic conditions at farms. Difficultues concerning the purchase of machines and production equipment and the promotion of investments were eliminated, and land management policy was thorougly changed. In January 1977 compulsory deliveries were abolished and general medical insurance was introduced. The peasants valued the latter measures especially because they could regard themselves as citizens with full rights. All these decisions and good weather were responsible for farm production achieving unprecedented increases in the first 3 years of the seventies. Having rapidly smothered the political crisis and achieved undoubted economic successes in farming with relatively low costs, the governing team decided that it had enough room for maneuver in the field of accelerating the "socialist transformation of the rural areas." [passage omitted]

However, it turned out that it was impossible to "combine the social transformation of the rural areas with constant increases in farm production." Through their stance in June 1976, workers once again demonstrated that they did not want to finance the "socialist transformation of the rural areas." The same sequence of events we had experienced in the mid-fifties happened again: accelerated collectivization, decreased farm production, the need to curb consumption through price hikes and wage drops, workers' revolt, and the crisis of power. The same thing occurred at the end of the sixties, except that the breakdown of agriculture was a result of the blockade of private farms. A similar mechanism was in operation in 1980.

The crisis of power at the beginning of the eighties produced further concessions for peasants. The right to set up their own unions and organizations, mainly trade union organizations, was taken away from farmers before it could be realized. Though they were left the freedom to set up branch associations such as hog breeders, sugar beet plantators, gardeners, and so forth, the structure of rural cooperatives — gmina cooperatives, dairy cooperatives, and so on — was not changed. The 1982 law on cooperatives introduced some cosmetic amendments, but retained the monopolistic structure, fulfilling the same functions and implementing the same doctrinal tasks as in the seventies. The entire system of preferential treatment for socialized farming has been retained except that the system of priorities and subsidies is much better camouflaged. [passage omitted]

The PZPR has not given up its historical socialist aims. A return to the active implementation of socialism in rural areas is merely a technical question, for the purpose of which all available opportunities will be exploited. No doubt this is the essence of the present "stage" — marking time until "new opportunities" emerge, blocking the development of private farms, and preventing (despite tactical concessions) the consolidation of the "peasantry as a class," while repeating the operation of the fifties on a large scale. At that time agriculture was the source of "socialist capital stock formation," which was used for forced industrialization. Today the exhaustion of farming (via the theories of "balance" in rural market places) seeks not to eliminate the crisis, but to saddle farmers with its costs.

MALINOWSKI RECEIVES SOVIET FARMING DELEGATION

LD200403 Warsaw PAP in English 2000 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Warsaw, Feb 19 — Chairman of the Central Committee of the United Peasant Party (ZSL), speaker of the Sejm (parliament) Roman Malinowski received here today a delegation of the Union's Council of the Soviet Collective Farms headed by its Chairman Ivan I. Kikhar, now on a visit to Poland at the invitation from ZSL's Central Committee.

The sides discussed the issues of development of agriculture and food economy in both countries, as well as development of bilateral cooperation between the ZSL and Union's Council of the Soviet Collective Farms.

Also today the Soviet delegation was received by alternate member of the Political Bureau, PUWP CC Secretary Zbigniew Michalek. He pointed out the need of development of various forms of cooperation and exchange of experiences in the field of agriculture between both countries.

AMBASSADOR ASSESSES DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENT

AU121718 Vienna NEUE AZ in German 12 Feb 87 p 7

[Astrid Zimmermann report: "Ambassador Gives Record of Successes: Poland Is Not Yet Lost!"]

[Text] On Wednesday [11 February] Polish Ambassador Marian Krzak drew up a very positive balance at a news conference in Vienna: Poland's situation is characterized by the consolidation of domestic policy and by breaking through the isolation toward other countries. Last year Poland's economic development surpassed even the Poles' own expectations.

Despite the clear weaknesses of the Polish economy — 18 percent inflation, rising foreign debts of currently $33.5 billion, and stagnation in the construction sector — an unexpectedly good result was achieved in 1986: Income increased by an average of 5 percent, industrial production rose by 4.4 percent, and agricultural production by 5 percent, said Krzak. The import-export ratio is almost balanced, but not yet satisfactory.

The ambassador expects alleviations on the credit market as a result of Poland's accession to the IMF. Poland promotes joint ventures, in particular with foreign enterprises. Japanese and Italian companies, for instance, showed interest in joint ventures in the automobile industry. Austria occupies an excellent third place among Poland's trade partners and Krzak believes that these relations can still be expanded.

In the field of social reforms, the Polish ambassador mainly stressed national reconciliation: Already last year an amnesty for all political prisoners was enforced. Krzak called the dialogue between state and church excellent. A special advisory body attached to the government has been established, which comprises prominent, nonparty personalities, trade union and church representatives, and former Solidarity experts. This Consultative Council is a novelty in Polish politics and could have a significant influence on future reforms, Krzak stated.

In the future, a people's lawyer will protect the citizens from blatant outgrowths of democracy. "This is extremely important," said Ambassador Krzak, "since, in Poland, considerably more decisions are taken by the authorities than in Austria."

Asked about the significance of Gorbachev's reform course, Krzak stated that it is "wind for Poland's sails" and meets with broad public interest.

BRIEFS

TRADE PROTOCOL WITH CAMBODIA — Phnom Penh, Feb 19 — Poland and Cambodia have signed here a trade protocol for 1987 which provides a 25 percent increase in the commodity exchange. Poland will buy Cambodian rubber, tropical timber, soya beans, sesame, and artistic handicraft products, and it will export diesel engines for fishing boats, industrial scales, polyester fabrics, and other goods. [Text] [Warsaw PAP in English 1445 GMT 19 Feb 87 LD]

ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH CANADA — Warsaw, Feb 19 — A group of Canadian industrialists, led by Chairman of the Board and Managing Director of the Power Corporation of Canada Paul Desmaris, called on President of the Polish Chamber of Foreign Trade Ryszard Karski today. Both sides reviewed possibilities of cooperation of Polish and Canadian enterprises and the principles of functioning of companies with foreign capital in Poland. [Text] [Warsaw PAP in English 2025 GMT 19 Feb 87 LD]

TRADE EXCHANGE WITH PHILIPPINES — Warsaw, Feb 19 — Today, Janusz Kaczurba, the acting head of the Ministry of Foreign Trade, received the ambassador of the Republic of the Philippines in connection with the latter's commencement of diplomatic mission in Poland. Matters related to the actual trade exchanges between the two countries and the prospects of their development in the near future came under review. [Text] [Warsaw PAP in English 2055 GMT 19 Feb 87 LD]

IASI OFFICIAL DEMOTED FOR PARTY NORMS VIOLATIONS

AU191525 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 18 Feb 87 p 2

[R. Gheorghe article: "Proceeding from One Case Concerning a Serious Departure From Party Norms and Discipline"]

[Excerpts] The revolutionary process of socialist construction has placed the bright figure of the Communist and revolutionary in the forefront of social life and in the center of history. [passage omitted]

It is clear — and our party secretary general, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, has repeatedly stressed it — that the high position of a communist does not and cannot bestow on the one who holds it any prerogative apart from serving with great ardor and superior work the cause of the people and of communism. Through his very status, the party activist has no other preorgatives except to be a faithful soldier of the party and through his entire work and life style to be a model of revolutionary spirit, of responsibility, honesty, and discipline — basic moral traits necessary for him to be able to do justice to the great responsibility entrusted to him by the party and the Communists. [passage omitted]

Life fully confirms the truth that our party incorporates activists who are responsibly fulfilling their tasks of honor with political and professional competence. [passage omitted]

However, sometimes there are inconsistent cases that signal that the promotion of a party member to a responsible position was done without thoroughly knowing the person in question, and without a precise estimation of his qualities and defects. This is what happened in the case of Victor Surdu, former secretary in charge of agricultural questions of the Iasi County Party Committee. The party county committee bureau assumed great responsibility when Victor Surdu was proposed for promotion at the end of 1985. Apart from some qualities displayed with much ado but not always confirmed by facts, Victor Surdu was also known as the protagonist of certain happenings which, had they been examined with a minimum of seriousness, would have ruled out the hypothesis of his promotion. [passage omitted]

Over a 4-year period, socialist ownership lost several million lei. Today Surdu claims that he knew nothing about this but his file with the justice bodies more than proves the responsibility he had. [passage omitted] Victor Surdu's case is also being investigated by the Prosecutor's Office for bribery. [passage omitted]

This is briefly put how Victor Surdu was promoted to a responsible position. [passage omitted]

It was stressed at the plenary session of the county party committee at which Victor Surdu's case was discussed that "after his promotion he became conceited and arrogant and adopted an attitude of underrating the work of subordinated cadres in the belief that all problems could be solved only by himself." [passage omitted]

Confronted with such things, the RCP Central Committee Secretariat decided that Victor Surdu should be demoted from the position of secretary in charge of agricultural questions of the Iasi County Party Committee. The plenary session of the county party committee excluded him from the county party committee and bureau. During the discussion of this case by the party basic organization a vote of censure and warning was issued to Victor Surdu; it was also decided that he be given a job in the production process and be deprived of the right to hold an executive position. [passage omitted]

After examining this case, the Iasi County party committee has to draw all the necessary conclusions to strengthen its exactingness toward the cadres and to ensure the assertion of the principle of assessing them solely on the basis of facts, of results in their work, of their conduct in society and life.

The great responsibilities of the party activist are honored through untiring work, spirit of sacrifice, and revolutionary devotion to the proper progress of the sector in question; they are honored through honesty, discipline, and modesty. The party and all our people are proud of those cadres whose ideal in life and activity it is to place the best they have in the service of the people and who do their duty as a communist should do his duty, commendably and in an irreproachable way.

CEAUSESCU RECEIVES PERUVIAN AMBASSADOR

AU171448 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1357 GMT 17 Feb 87

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 17/2/1987 -- On Tuesday, February 17, Nicolae Ceausescu, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, received Carlos Gamarra Vargas who presented his credentials as ambassador of the Republic of Peru to Romania. Cordial greetings were exchanged on the occasion between President Nicolae Ceausescu and the Peruvian president, Alan Garcia Perez.

The address presented by the ambassador highlights the fine links of friendship established and developing between Peru and Romania, a country for which the Peruvian people nutures feelings of sympathy and respect. The wish was also expressed to deepen the two countries' cooperation, to strengthen their collaboration on an international plane with a view to solving the serious problems confronting mankind.

In his address President Nicolae Ceausescu points to the existing conditions for the multilateral development of the relations between Romania and Peru, for the further intensification of the cooperation between the two countries in the political, economic, technical-scientific and other domains of joint interest. Stress is also laid on the fine cooperation between Romania and Peru internationally, in the efforts for peace, disarmament and detente, for economic and social progress.

The address specifies that under the particularly serious and complex circumstances, the fundamental questions are the safeguarding of peace, the halting of the arms race, the passage to disarmament, nuclear in the first place, the ensurance of the people', of the nation' foremost right to peace, life, to a free and independent existence.

After the credentials presentation ceremony, President Nicolae Ceausescu conversed with the ambassador of the Republic of Peru.

The ceremony and talks were attended by Ioan Totu, foreign affairs minister, and Dumitru Apostoiu, presidential and State Council secretary.

LCY'S RENOVICA TO VISIT HUNGARY 'LATE' FEB

LD200341 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1838 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Belgrade, Feb 19 (TANJUG) — President of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia Central Committee Presidency Milanko Renovica will visit Hungary at the invitation of General Secretary oif the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party Janos Kadar.

The visit will take place late this month, it was announced in Belgrade today.

The last meeting between the two parties' leaders was held in March in [figure indistinct], when Kadar visited Yugoslavia at the invitation of the then LCY Central Committee Presidency President Dragoslav Markovic.

FURTHER ON VISIT OF AUSTRIA'S VRANITZKY

Discusses Carinthian Slovenes

LD191523 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1132 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Bled, 19 Feb (TANJUG) — Austrian Federal Chancellor Franz Vranitzky received Dusan Sinigoj, president of the Executive Council of the Assembly of the SR of Slovenia, this morning in Bled. A short and cordial conversation included a series of questions of bilateral cooperation between Slovenia and Austrian provinces, as well as on development of cooperation within the framework of the Alpe Adria work community.

They exchanged views on various aspects of bilateral relations and on economic and other types of cooperation, particularly in environmental protection, transportation, tourism, and border cooperation. Both sides stressed that significant results had so far been achieved in these areas, and that delays in the realization of individual projects should be expected to be eliminated, particularly in the area of joint economic investments, transportation, and border goods trade.

Chancellor Vranitzky and Dusan Sinigoj devoted particular attention to unsolved questions of the Slovene minority in Austria. It was pointed out that the Austrian Government would continue talks with national minorities with the aim of solving the problems of bilingual education in Carinthia.

Meets With Mukulic, Departs

LD192104 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1732 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Bled, February 19 (TANJUG) — "We are very pleased with the visit and the content of the talks with Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Austria Franz Vranitzky," Yugoslav Prime Minister Branko Mikulic told a press conference in [name indistinct], at the end of the Austrian chancellor's two-day official friendly visit to Yugoslavia. Chancellor Vranitzky left for Vienna this afternoon.

Mikulic expressed the hope that the visit "will contribute to the further promotion of relations and closer links between the two neighbouring countries, consolidation of friendship and development of bilateral cooperation in the economic, scientific, technical and other fields."

He also noted a very high level of agreement revealed by the two sides in their talks on international political and economic relations. "As two countries — one neutral and the other nonaligned — we paid special attention to current problems in Europe," he said.

Mikulic thanked Vranitsky for an understanding expressed in connection with Yugoslavia's interests in joining the European scientific and technological development programmes as part of some of the Eureka projects, and settlement of the status of the Slovene and Croatian national minorities in Austria in accordance with Article 7 of the Austrian state treaty.

Chancellor Vranitsky told journalists that "agreement was reached in discussing the problem of human rights and environment protection, as well as in talks on all other questions from the sphere of bilateral cooperation."

"We also discussed the CSCE (Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe), and our stands on this point concurred," he added. Both sides should continue to pursue this activity, especially as concerns human rights, disarmament and other problems which need to be "discussed frankly and sincerely on a large European scale," he stated.

The Austrial chancellor also pointed out the important role of the group of neutral and nonaligned European countries.

He said he had handed an invitation to the Yugoslav prime minister to visit Austria "so that we can make our cooperation even more fruitful."

Chancellor Vranitsky concluded by describing today's talks of the two countries' finance ministers as "very useful."

The two prime ministers met this morning for the final round of their talks in this lakeside resort in northwest Yugoslavia, in which they expressed concern about the threats to world peace and security. A continued demonstration of big-power superiority may lead to a further worsening of global international relations, it was stated. For this reason the two sides pointed to the need for a resumption of big-power negotiations, which should also be joined by other countries in order to eliminate the present tensions in international relations.

Both sides noted the threat of continued lagging of the developing countries and the necessity of reviving the north-south dialogue. Special attention was paid to the need for an expansion of activities and cooperation with the neighbouring and Mediterranean countries.

Prime Minister Mikulic also spoke of the difficulties in Yugoslavia's relations with the European Community and hoped that the members of this economic integration would be more sensitive in future to the acceptance of Yugoslav imports on their markets.

ZEMLJARIC RECEIVES CUBAN INTERIOR MINISTER

LD190021 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1644 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Text] Belgrade, 18 Feb (TANJUG) -- FEC Vice President Janez Zemljaric today received Cuban Interior Minister Jose Fernandez Abrahantes.

In the talks, which were also attended by Dobroslav Culafic, federal secretary for internal affairs, they positively assessed the achieved level of overall relations and cooperation between the two friendly socialist and nonaligned countries and expressed a firm conviction about the need for their further successful development.

DPRK FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES ON WORKING VISIT

LD191241 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1112 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Belgrade, 19 Feb (TANJUG) -- Kim Yong-nam, DPRK vice premier and minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Belgrade today for a working visit to Yugoslavia. At Belgrade Airport he was welcomed by Raif Dizdarevic, federal secretary for foreign affairs, and his aides. The first round of the Dizdarevic-Kim Yong-nam official talks will open in Belgrade this afternoon.

During this meeting Dizdarevic and Kim Yong-nam are expected to exchange views on topical international issues with particular emphasis on the Nonaligned Movement and preparations for a ministerial conference of the nonaligned and developing countries devoted to the issue of south-south relations and cooperation. Under a decision adopted at the Eighth Nonaligned Summit, the conference will take place in Pyongyang next summer. Today's talks will also cover cooperation between the two friendly and nonaligned countries.

During the course of his several-day visit, Kim Yong-nam is expected to be received by Sinan Hasani, president of the SFRY presidency, among others.

OFFICIALS SEND NATIONAL DAY GREETINGS TO IRAN

Officials Greet Iran Leaders

AU141553 Belgrade BORBA in Servo-Croatian 11 Feb 87 p 4

[Text] On the occasion of the Iranian national day (the anniversary of the Islamic revolution), Sinan Hasani, president of the SFRY Presidency, on behalf of the Presidency sent a telegram to Iranian President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i conveying his cordial congratulations. SFRY Assembly President Ivo Vrandecic sent a telegram to Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali-Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, president of the Islamic Consultative Assembly.

Mikulic Sends Greetings

AU131650 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 12 Feb 87 p 4

[Text] On the occasion of the Islamic Republic of Iran's national day, FEC President Branko Milulic sent his greetings to Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi.

LCY PRESIDIUM'S KRUNIC VIEWS USSR RESTRUCTURING

LD181113 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0024 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Text] Belgrade, Feb 17 (TANJUG) -- The social sense and historical justification of the existence of a communist party is its ability to change the society and the world. This is also the characteristic of the Communist organization of Yugoslavia which has been successfully playing this role -- said Milan Kucan, chief of the League of Communists of Slovenia, in tonight's TV-Novi Sad Discussion on "The League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY) and changes."

Emphasizing that the Communist Party has substantially changed the living conditions for Yugoslavia and has acted fatefully on the latter-date history of Yugoslavia, Kucan said that the action to change the society and solve the crises had to be well-thought, that it had to reflect the objectives and long-term interests of the working class. This is a programme that the LCY does have, and it is embodied in the constitution and in the conclusions of the 13th LCY Congress.

Kucan said that the world now shows a trend towards changes. It is no problem for Yugoslavia, as he said, not only to include itself in the contemporary world's scientific-technological development, but also to reorganize itself -- which it has to do as the 21st century approaches -- into a modern self-management socialist society that will be capable of solving more quickly and efficiently the social, economic and other problems that it unavoidably encounters in its development.

Also taking part in the TV programme during which viewers' questions were answered was Bosko Krunic, member of the LCY Presidency. Answering the question of most viewers concerning the forthcoming amendments to the SFRY Constitution, Krunic said this move was undertaken precisely with the view of making the country's supreme law more efficient in daily practice.

Krunic reiterated that some of the essential constitutional principles have not been applied practically so far, and added that the amendments aim towards the quicker development of socialist self-management.

Answering a question about the present social changes in the USSR, the People's Republic of China, and some other socialist countries, Krunic pointed out that the present changes in their political systems were the biggest steps in the domain of the democratization of their societies. We are gratified with such intentions, said Krunic and added that this was still another proof of the rightness of the course of the Yugoslav party which was first to have similar changes initiated in its society.

LCY OFFICIAL VIEWS CRITICISM OF FOREIGN POLICY

AU190948 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 9 Feb 87 p 6

[Unattributed report: "Unfounded and Irresponsible Spreading of Doubt"]

[Excerpt] Dr Stanislav Stojanovic, executive secretary of the LCY Presidium, spoke at a recent meeting of the political aktiv of the Nis region. On this occasion, among other things, he said the following:

In a way similar to certain tendencies that emerged at the beginning of the seventies, when short-term foreign political pragmatism was offered to us as an alternative to the nonaligned policy, appearing in our country today are — we can read about them in our newspapers — those who say we should discard our "global appearance" in international relations, who say we are allegedly tied too closely to developing countries, and who believe in the "foreign political condensation of Yugoslavia" and "placing it where, objectively speaking, its place is — after years of its living beyond its abilities in this sphere."

On the one hand, there are some blanket statements to the effect that, apart from Albania, Yugoslavia is the only European country not encompassed by the process of international or, to be more precise, European integration; that our foreign policy is at its sunset.

On the other hand, suspicions are expressed that Yugoslav foreign policy frequently gets entangled in incomprehensible paradoxes and contradictions or we do not possess a rational foreign policy. Finally, in overcoming certain alleged "untouchableness" that this sphere has in the media, individuals are now very nonchalantly examining "to which side were are sliding," attributing to us — even where this sphere is concerned — "Cominternist logic" and "ideological prejudices" toward capitalism!

Threatening us with the "CEMA umbrella and Moscow's conductor stick," some individuals deny our orientation toward joining certain projects of the CEMA Complex Program and in doing so completely ignore that this orientation is in our interest and is based on full equality. Criticism that this means the "planned introduction of Yugoslavia into the East Bloc through a side door" is not the result of serious analysis, but is an unfounded and irresponsible spreading of doubt into our policy brought about by these critics' ideological prejudices.

Or, one perhaps sees the prospects of our independence in our closing in ourselves the fear of real or assumed external dangers, even when — as in this case — there are no real reasons for that?!

On the contrary, we cannot and shall not prove our independence by fencing ourselves off from certain international economic integration processes. Ultimately, the extent of our independence will depend primarily on us, and not on others. In any case, in the increasingly interdependent world of today, we must prove our independence by maintaining equal relations with others, relations as wide and developed as possible. This is made possible only by the same nonaligned policy "Europeanized" individuals suggest we should abandon and is thereby confirmed as being in our interest. [passage omitted]

FEC DISCUSSES ECONOMIC STABILIZATION PROGRAM

LD172246 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1743 GMT 17 Feb 87

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 17 Feb (TANJUG) — The FEC, at a 2-day session held on 16 and 17 February presided over by Branko Mikulic and Janez Zemljaric, discussed this year's implementation of tasks from the resolution on the policy of sociopolitical development. The Federal Secretariat for Information reports it was informed that realizing the long-term program for economic stabilization and the aims and tasks contained in this year's resolution were particularly facing the problem of growing inflation.

At the same time, stagnated production is worsening, as are problems of inefficiency. Other structural problems in the economy are being noted, particularly foreign exchange illiquidity. Proceeding from this, the FEC approved several draft laws, decrees, and decisions whose purpose is to remove basic causes of the chronic economic imbalance, especially inflationary economic activities and high inflation. [passge omitted]

The changes and amendments to the decree on the organization and work of the uniform foreign exchange market — whose draft was approved at the session — envisages that if no foreign currency funds above the established minimum level are available in accounts of authorized banks, and if the national bank has no current foreign exchange reserves, foreign currency funds should be secured by proportional utilization of the minimum reserves of all authorized banks. Approval was also given to action by authorized banks if they refuse to sell a part of their foreign exchange from minimum reserves for the regular payment of obligations under foreign loan agreements.

The FEC also approved a decision on the method of calculating, increasing, reducing, and using socially recognized funds for reproduction requirements. In establishing the entitlement of organizations of associated labor, statistics will be used for the exports realized, imports, and noncommodity payments in convertible foreign currency carried out in the previous four quarters. This is because to establish the basic organization of associated labor's entitlement, exports achieved have to be continuously monitored over a longer period. In this way, a basic organization of associated labor that significantly increases its exports in relation to imports over a fixed period may adjust its entitlement from the previous year. An organization of associated labor that has a shortfall in realizing exports, however, may not retain the entitlement it had the previous year.

A decision was also approved on the order of priority in payments to other countries. Priority will be given to the payment of obligations under foreign loan agreements, and secondly to importing raw materials and semimanufactures, spare parts, and noncommodity payments for organizations of associated labor whose exports are greater than their imports. [passage omitted]

FEC DISCUSSES MONETARY POLICY AT 19 FEB SESSION

LD200526 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1452 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 19 Feb (TANJUG) — At today's session presided by Milos Milosavljevic, the FEC endorsed the proposed decision on realizing the aims and tasks of the joint policy of issuing money and the monetary policy and the joint basis of 1987's credit policy as a basis for cooperating with the appropriate republican and provincial organs.

The monetary and credit policy will, the Federal Secretariat for Information reports, in accordance with the basic orientations of this year's economic policy, provide support for realizing the envisaged growth of production and exports. It should create conditions for slowing inflationary trends as the monetary and credit policy will fund only those work organizations of associated labor that possess a sound and economically justifiable basis for development and are oriented towards exporting.

Starting from the envisaged economic trends transferred from last year, seasonal characteristics, and assessed monetary effects of foreign exchange transactions at banks, it is anticipated that in the first 3 months of this year the money supply will increase by 4.5 percent and that of dinar loans by banks by 5.5 percent compared to December 1986. [passge omitted]

The FEC also endorsed the decision forming a customs zone in Kardeljevo and a partial customs zone in Metkovic. Here industrial production of goods for exports and services will be conducted and foreign goods will be finished. Apart from this, foreign goods will be stored in the zone, goods of the same origin uncleared through customs will be prepared for the market, and ships for international maritime transportation will be supplied.

At the session, the council also endorsed the draft decision to issue bank notes of 10,000 and 20,000 and 50,000 dinars. If the decision is adopted in the Yugoslav Assembly, 10,000 dinar bank notes could be put in circulation in the middle of next year, and those of 20,000 and 50,000 dinars half a year and a year later, respectively. [passage omitted]

MACEDONIAN LC DENIES PARTY EXPULSION REPORTS

AU181136 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 13 Feb 87 p 3

[D.N. Report: "Rejections from the Macedonian LC Central Committee"]

[Text] In the press yesterday there were reports on the Yugoslav Constitutional Court session that said those opposing changes in the law on employment passed by the Assembly of the SR of Macedonia will be expelled from the party. In view of this we were asked by the Macedonian LC Central Committee's section for information to publish the following:

"For the sake of honest and objective reporting we feel obliged to point out that this conclusion or tenet does not exist in the documents of the Macedonian LC Central Committee Presidium. The public was in time informed about this by the publication of full documents of the Macedonian LC Central Committee Presidium, announcements from the 26th expanded session of the Macedonian LC Central Committee, the introductory speech of Jakov Lazaroski, president of the Macedonian LC Central Committee Presidium, as well as the publication of the Presidium's information on ideopolitical problems in preparations for realizing the program of measures and activities of the SR of Macedonia Assembly in realizing the employment policy between 1986-90."